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report robust auction
results
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May/June 2013 ■ Montana - The Land of Creativity

Providing information to all Montanans through funding by the National Endowment for the Arts and the State of Montana

The Art of Leadership: MAC offers two webinars for arts organizations

The Montana Arts Council is offering two free one-hour webinars for arts organizations' leadership. To register, go to MAC's homepage, art.mt.gov. Links will be posted May 1 for Webinar No. 1, and by June 1 for the second one.



Webinar No. 1: Employee or Independent Contractor?

Tuesday, May 21, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Presented by Carleen Layne, MAC Accountant

In this webinar Carleen will set forth the high points of Montana and federal regulations regarding independent contractor versus employee status for nonprofit arts/cultural organizations.

This is a difficult and complex area with increasing scrutiny

at both the state and federal levels. And if you get it wrong, the results can be very costly.

Since being an employer can be a major workout, organizations may be tempted to consider their "staff" as independent contractors. Unfortunately there are lots of rules governing whether someone is or is not truly an independent contractor. And "I want it to be so" is not sufficient criteria to make it so.

Carleen will try to provide a perspective about the reality of the issue, seasoned with some humor. Because life's too short to take yourself – and the red tape – too seriously.



Carleen Layne

Webinar No. 2: Building Arts Participation

Tuesday, June 18, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Presented by Cinda Holt, MAC Business Development Specialist



Cinda Holt

This webinar presentation focuses on case studies of seven Montana arts organizations that received multi-year funding from the Montana Arts Council through the Wallace Foundation's START initiative for building arts participation during the last decade.

The lessons learned, both successes and failures, are illuminating to those who want examples of challenges facing rural arts organizations, or those in smaller communities, who are trying to strengthen their supporters and audiences.

In addition, the presentation includes the Montana Arts Council's "lessons learned" in building public value for the arts. This is a result of the agency's participation in the Wallace Foundation-sponsored professional development/executive sessions that were offered by the faculty of Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

Legislative budget still needs boost for Montana Arts Council

By Arni Fishbaugh
Executive Director

As we go to press, the Montana Arts Council (MAC) is still working with the Montana Legislature to get a remaining balance of \$92,000 that was in the original \$184,000 proposed in the governor's budget for the FY14-15 biennium. An effort to get this funding restored in Senate Finance and Claims failed on a tied vote held April 9.

The Montana Cultural Advocacy will continue to lobby for this restoration in the Senate and the conference committee, the last two places where this funding can be added.

The \$184,000 is to replace a loss in federal funding that the agency experienced in FY12 and FY13, and does not include any sequestration cuts that are anticipated for next fiscal year, per Congressional action.

Cultural Trust grants in HB9 headed to Governor

The Cultural Trust grants in HB9 sailed through the Senate without amendment, and passed a resounding 35 to 15. There was great bi-partisan support for this bill.

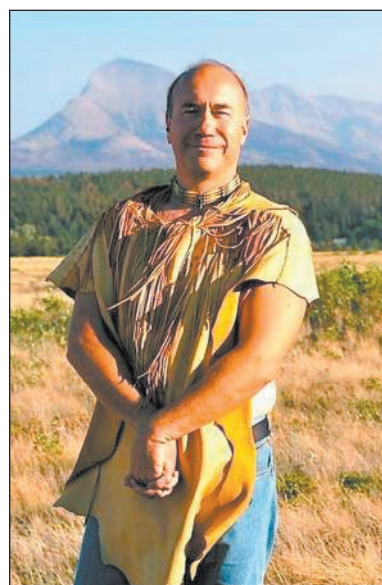
See Arni's Addendum on page 2

Gladstone receives Russell's Heritage Award

Jack Gladstone, "Montana's Blackfeet Troubadour," is this year's recipient of the C.M. Russell Heritage Award, given by the C.M. Russell Museum during Western Art Week festivities in Great Falls.

The annual Heritage Award recognizes those who have made a significant contribution to the legacy, culture, life and country of C.M. Russell's West.

Regarded as a cultural bridge builder, Gladstone delivers programs nationally on American Indian mythology and history. In a career spanning three decades, he has produced 15 critically acclaimed CDs. In 1985, Gladstone co-founded "Native America Speaks," an award-winning lecture series for Glacier National Park. Most recently, he received the prestigious Best Historical Recording award from the Native American Music Association for his album, *Native Anthropology: Challenge, Choice and Promise in the 21st Century*.



Jack Gladstone

In celebration of the honor, Gladstone performed for more than 400 Cascade County school students March 15 at the C.M. Russell Museum, along with musicians Phil Aaberg, Mark Wittman, Linda Kuhn, David Griffith, Rob Quist and Kendall Flint. The group also performed for a sold-out crowd at the Meadow Lark Country Club that evening, and then hosted a free jam session during the Western Masters Art Show.

The student performance was titled "Buffalo Cafe: Cultural Change on the Northern Plains in Story and Song." It was designed, according to Gladstone, "to paint the change of what is known as Charlie Russell Country and keep the spirit moving through song and story." His daughter, Mariah, joined in and performed native sign language to a few select songs.

ter, Mariah, joined in and performed native sign language to a few select songs.

See Heritage Award on page 2

Academy of Arts and Letters honors Missoula poet

Joanna Klink, associate professor of English and creative writing at The University of Montana, received the \$7,500 Arts and Letters Award in Literature from The American Academy of Arts and Letters to honor her career and poetry publications.

"I was pretty floored," Klink said. "I'm not on the radar too much, so it's really nice to be recognized like this."

Recognition by the American Academy of Arts and Letters is considered one of the highest formal acknowledgments of artistic merit in the U.S. Klink has also received awards and fellowships from the Rona Jaffe Foundation, Jeannette Haien Ballard and Civitella Ranieri. Klink is the author of three books of poetry: *They Are Sleeping*, *Circadian* and *Raptus*. Her poems have appeared in many anthologies, most recently *The Penguin Anthology of Twentieth Century American Poetry*.

Klink, who teaches poetry at UM, is currently on sabbatical. She is finishing a book about Paul Celan, a



Joanna Klink

post-war German-Romanian-Jewish poet, called *Strangeness*, and hopes to complete her fourth book of poems as well, which is slated for publication in April 2015.

The American Academy of Arts and Letters is an honor society of 250 lifelong members. The membership is made up of elected architects, composers, artists and writers. Each year the Academy

recognizes more than 50 composers, artists, architects and writers for exceptional work with cash awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$100,000. Academy members nominate the award candidates, and committees comprised of randomly selected members from the academy's roster choose the recipients.

Other recipients of Arts and Letters Awards in Literature, each worth \$7,500, are Katherine Boo, Neil LaBute, Bill McKibben, Bruce Norris, Darryl Pinckney, D.A. Powell and Brad Watson.



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Springboard for the Arts provides guides to healthcare

Healthcare reform is on its way, and the changes will affect artists across Montana. With more than one in three artists inadequately insured nationwide, it's especially important to start educating ourselves on the new legal requirement to have health insurance by 2014.

Springboard for the Arts has compiled information from government and private sector sources to help you answer questions like:

- Who must have health insurance?
- What health insurance must I have?
- What's the annual fine for not having health insurance?
- What's a health insurance exchange?
- How much will I pay for health insurance on the exchange?

For answers to these questions and more, go to www.springboardforthearts.org/health/getting-insured-by-2014/.

ARNI'S ADDENDUM

Arlynn Fishbaugh, Executive Director
afishbaugh@mt.gov



Budget notes, and more

President's 2014 budget proposes NEA funding increase

President Obama sent his fiscal year 2014 budget proposal to Congress recently, requesting \$154,466 million in funding for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

This figure represents an increase of almost \$8.5 million over the NEA's FY2013 budget, before sequestration took effect on March 1. Under sequestration, the NEA is operating with a budget of about \$139 million for the remainder of FY2013.

The president's request mirrors last year's, when the administration also urged Congress to fund the NEA at \$154 million; but this year it is especially supportive given the considerable pressure sequestration places on the fed-

eral government to reduce federal spending.

With the president's budget formally

released, Congress is expected to begin work quickly on budget bills for FY2014. Though not scheduled yet, the House and Senate Appropriations subcommittees are expected to hear testimony related to the NEA's budget in the next few weeks.

— **Courtesy of Issac Brown, Legislative Counsel, National Assembly of State Arts Agencies**



Beck McLaughlin
(Photo by Herb Windsor)

Beck McLaughlin, MAC's arts education director, announces retirement

Beck McLaughlin just announced her upcoming retirement to the staff, effective the end of May. MAC will wait until the legislative budgeting process concludes to begin work on refilling this position.

Knowing that arts education is one of the most important things we do, we are going to miss Beck like crazy. We have been in awe

of her ability to surpass all expectations, do things exactly on time, deliver exactly what she says she will, and create ever-fresh ideas for how to do things more effectively and of greater public value.

She has accomplished enormous feats each year. She has helped Montana build a national reputation for outstanding arts education programming.

Montana Main Street Program awards project grants

The Montana Department of Commerce is awarding a total of nearly \$36,000 to five Montana Main Street (MMS) communities, one of which is a brand new member to the program. The previously enrolled communities of Glendive/Dawson County, Shelby, Terry and Whitehall will receive grants, along with the newest affiliate, the City of Helena.

The Montana Main Street program is dedicated to bettering the economic, historic and cultural vitality of Montana downtowns through community development, revitalization and historic preservation. MMS fosters grassroots efforts through coordination and technical assistance, focused on a comprehensive approach to restoring healthy commercial districts and preserving the historic structures that contribute to Montana's unique sense of place.

The Affiliate Community tier allows all eligible communities the opportunity to learn and develop the Main Street Four Point Approach™ while accessing the resources and services of the program network. This tier is designed for communities entering the program and in the early stages of organization and capacity building.

Helena's Main Street efforts will be led by the city's Community Development Department, Helena Business Improvement District, and Downtown Helena, Inc. Other organizations associated with the downtown are encouraged to participate in the process of strengthening the district through long-range planning and more specific prioritized projects.

"The new Helena Main Street project is a collaboration of organizations, businesses and residents, as part of a larger effort to maintain and grow the economic vitality of the downtown commercial district," said Meg O'Leary, director of the Montana Department of Commerce.

Helena is the 20th member of the state program after successfully completing an application for membership and demonstrating a dedication to the downtown district.

"Helena demonstrated a clear vision for their downtown revitalization efforts and significant accomplishments in the downtown to build upon, and it collected a flood of membership support letters that represented a wide range of downtown business and tourism groups, local independent businesses, and historic and cultural institutions," said Tash Wisemiller, coordinator of MMS.

FY2013 Montana Main Street Grants (to date):

Helena: \$7,500 to conduct a property tax analysis and revenue mapping project to better understand the value of downtown development and investments made in the downtown commercial district.

Glendive/Dawson County: \$15,000 to help the city of Glendive, in coordination with Dawson County, update its existing growth policy in response to recent significant regional economic growth related to oil and gas development.

Shelby: \$3,000 for the creation of a historical walking tour in the Main Street business district and adjacent historic neighborhoods.

Terry: \$1,500 for the continuation and completion of a growth policy to plan for sustained growth and promote regional economic development.

Whitehall: \$8,800 to assist in the creation of an urban renewal tax increment finance district to address blight, promote investment in streetscape beautification, and generate a funding source for infrastructure improvement.

Affiliate update: Deer Lodge

The most recent affiliate member to be accepted into the program in June 2012 was the City of Deer Lodge. The community has since begun major planning efforts, spearheaded by the Deer Lodge Development Group, to restore the historic Hotel Deer Lodge, filling the vacant building with an operating hotel and retail space along main street.

The larger plan aims to strengthen the downtown commercial core, save the landmark historic buildings from disrepair, and connect the downtown with the wealth of historic and cultural attractions in the area.

The Deer Lodge Development Group submitted a successful application to the Montana Office of Tourism, resulting in a \$30,000 grant award to create a smartphone self-guided walking tour of the historic downtown.

For more information on the Montana Main Street Program, visit mtmainstreet.mt.gov.



Rob Quist and Richard Matoon were among the musicians joining Jack Gladstone (right) in a concert at the C.M. Russell Museum. (Photo courtesy of the museum)

Heritage Award (from page 1)

Gladstone told a local television station that the award is "the biggest compliment of my artistic life thus far."

The Heritage Award may be given in several areas, including history, literature, preservation, music and the arts. Previous recipients include Canadian singer-songwriter Ian Tyson in 2009; Ginger Renner in 2010 for her tireless support of the museum and her work as a

noted C.M. Russell expert; and cowboy poet and singer-songwriter Red Steagall in 2011. Last year's winner was Rick Stewart, former director and curator of western paintings and sculpture at the Amon Carter Museum of American Art in Fort Worth, TX, and curator of "Romance Maker: The Watercolors of Charles M. Russell," which was on display at the Russell Museum last year.

STATE OF THE ARTS

State of the Arts is published six times a year by the Montana Arts Council and produced by *Lively Times*.

State of the Arts welcomes submissions of photographs, press releases and newsworthy information from individual artists and arts organizations.

Please check with the Montana Arts Council for reprint permission.

Deadline: The deadline for submissions is May 25, 2013, for the July/August 2013 issue. Send items to: Montana Arts Council, PO Box 202201, Helena, MT 59620-2201; phone 406-444-6430, fax 406-444-6548 or email mac@mt.gov.

Subscriptions: *State of the Arts* is available free of charge to Montana residents as a public service of the Montana Arts Council. To subscribe, please call 406-444-6430, or update or sign-up online at www.art.mt.gov. Out-of-state subscriptions at \$15 per year are welcome – mail your check to the Montana Arts Council, PO Box 202201, Helena, MT 59620.

CONGRATS TO ...

Home-grown Bozeman talent **Katie Goodman**, best known in Montana as the headliner and co-director/writer of Broad Comedy, who has been invited to perform at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Aug. 2-26 in Scotland. Goodman will be up against 2,500 other theatre shows and comedians in this giant festival, which includes theatre, comedy, dance, physical theatre, musicals, operas, music, exhibitions, and events. Goodman will deliver 25 shows in a row of her smorgasbord of feminist, political, lefty material. "Will the not-exactly-cutting-edge of feminism and pro-gay-rights Scots go for it?" she asks. "Fate will tell." Goodman, who lives in New York City part of the year, is making a national name for herself, including regular appearances on Current TV as a pundit. The Fringe is known for making careers and attracts scouts from Europe, HBO, Comedy Central and the like. Goodman notes that 25 shows in a row could prove challenging, even to a seasoned comedian. "You lose it around day 21. By then I'll be thinking of our fans in Bozeman and probably wishing I were at the Emerson (Center) instead," she says. "But I'll have haggis to fortify me." Learn more at www.katiegoodman.com.



Katie Goodman

Sue and John Talbot of Missoula, who each will receive an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from The University of Montana during May 18 commencement ceremonies. The Talbots earned the honor for their longtime efforts to enhance educational opportunities for UM students and their tireless work in the Missoula community and Montana. "John and Sue have worked hard to make the university a better place, and their efforts will pay dividends for generations to come," said UM President Royce Engstrom. Sue Talbot is the daughter of longtime newspaperman Don Anderson, and earned an undergraduate degree from Radcliffe College in 1952 and a master's degree from UM in 1980. She taught French in Virginia, Billings and Missoula and was the honorary French consul in Montana for many years. She also chaired several statewide organizations, including the Montana Arts Council, the Montana Community Foundation and the Governor's Task Force on Philanthropy. Her husband graduated from Harvard College in 1951, worked for the Central Intelligence Agency in the '50s, and was employed at Trans World Airlines before joining Lee Enterprises, which owns newspapers nationwide. He ended his career with Lee as publisher of the *Missoulian*. He developed and taught a course in news media management at UM's School of Journalism from 1986-2002. Among their many passions, the Talbots have been faithful supporters of the UM College of Visual and Performing Arts, as well as the arts in Montana generally, and have been involved with Symphony Chorale, the Missoula International Choral Festival, the Steinway piano fundraising campaign, and the John Ellis Endowment. Their efforts have been recognized by the Governor's Arts Awards in 1994 and the Missoula Cultural Council's Cultural Achievement Award in 2002.

Ceramic artist **Steven Lee**, director of the Archie Bray Foundation in Helena, who was invited to give a presentation March 3 at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City as part of the Sunday at the Met series, titled "Americans and the Porcelain City." Lee joined artists Wayne Higby and Sin-ying Ho to discuss how their journeys to Jingdezhen, China, changed their approaches to ceramics. The conversation was moderated by Denise Patry Leidy, curator of the museum's Department of Asian Art, and Jane Adlin, associate curator of the Department of Modern and Contemporary Art.

Big Timber attorney **Bill Frazier**, who has been tapped by the Oil Painters of America to present a workshop on "What Artists Should Know About the Law" at the organization's annual conference in Fredericksburg, TX. Frazier is one of the country's foremost lawyers on the subject of artists' contract and copyright. His legal columns for artists run monthly in *Art of the West* and in each issue of *State of the Arts*.

Bozeman artist **Carol Hartman**, who has been invited to participate in the IX Biennale Internazionale d'Art Contemporanea de Firenze, Nov. 30-Dec. 8 in Florence, Italy. The Florence Biennale is one of the largest events representing artists from around the world, with participants from 80 countries. In 2001 the Florence Biennale became an of-

ficial Partner in the United Nation's "Dialogue Among Civilizations" program, which aims to promote dialogue among peoples of diverse cultures through artistic expression. Hartman has also been notified that her artwork and bio will appear in the International Contemporary Masters VII, a juried annual, invitation-only art publication representing artists from all over the world. The book goes to press later this year.

Kalispell art quilter **Brian Dykhuizen**, who had two pieces, "Twists and Turns" and "Composition in Black and White No. 1," accepted in the American Quilter's Society international quilting competition, April 24-27 in Paducah, KY. Judges chose Dykhuizen's work from among hundreds of entrants from 46 states and 11 countries. An elite show in the quilting world, the AQS QuiltWeek competition offers \$120,000 in cash prizes with a Best of Show award of \$20,000. Dykhuizen, the only male member of the Flathead Quilters Guild, began quilting in college, and went to work at the Quilt Gallery on U.S. 93 South after moving to the area in 2001. He eventually began designing his own patterns and dying fabrics. The AQS competition marks Dykhuizen's 17th national or international juried show; his accomplishments include a first-place award in 2008 at "Thread Lines," a show and competition at Missouri State University. The artist, who also works as a school-bus driver, hopes his continued success will lead to his goal: "I think it would be nice as an art quilter for my love of quilting to be able to support me," he said. "I guess that's the ultimate goal, that I can make a living doing something that I love to do." — from the *Daily Inter Lake*, March 18

Troy artist **Terrel Jones**, whose work is now represented by the Amsterdam Whitney Gallery in New York City, where she is featured in an upcoming exhibition, "Salute to the Stars," on display May 3-June 4. Her painting, "Arcadia," appears on the show announcements, and three other mixed-media works are included in the exhibit. Jones worked for the Troy School District as an art and foreign language instructor 1983-2005. She is now retired and divides her time between painting and outdoor activities. "My intent is to unite the human form with nature," she says. "I look to nature for color and organic patterning to combine with man-made colors and patterns, sometimes adding mixed media."



"Arcadia" by Terrel Jones



Mark Holston's images were on display in Colombia.

that produces milk for the state of Antioquia and such major cities as Medellin. The cowboys reflect a vibrant, macho image through their attire, accented by locally produced hats and neck scarves.

Lincoln artist **Annie Allen**, who was the only out-of-state artist chosen for this year's ArtWorks NW 2013 Juried Art Show and Competition at Umpqua Valley Arts Association Art Center in Roseburg, OR. Her painting, "Origins," was among 35 artworks selected from 171 entries of two- and three-dimensional work. The exhibit opens with a reception May 10 and continues through July 5. According to the nonprofit arts association, "The goal of the juried show is to challenge participants to stretch their skills and motivate them to create fresh work in whatever medium they find themselves inspired, and to give opportunities to build a strong body of work, build a resume and learn while doing the process." Allen, the owner of Roasted Coffee House and Gallery in Lincoln, is also a coach in the Montana Arts Council's Montana Artrepreneur Program (MAP).



"Origins" by Annie Allen

Continued on next page



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Send us your good news

Artists, writers, musicians, arts educators and arts administrators: Please let us know about major awards and accomplishments, especially beyond the borders of Montana.

Send your good news to Congrats, c/o *Lively Times*, 33651 Eagle Pass Trail, Charlo, MT 59824; or email: writeus@livelytimes.com.

If you include a digital photo, please make sure it's at least 150 lines per inch (lpi or dpi).



4

The Power of Art: Can creativity cure the sick?

Can unleashing inner creativity heal the sick?

Nine-year-old leukemia patient Ryan is in no doubt. "It makes you feel like you can do anything really," he says of the art therapy classes he enjoys, thanks to a U.S. charity.

The American military has also long embraced art therapy, using it as a core treatment to help veterans recover from post-traumatic stress disorder. Now top brass are leading research to find out why this kind of treatment works.

As Jane O'Brien reports in the second part of the Power of Art series, mounting clinical evidence of art's medical benefits could bring new and exciting ways to harness its power (Feb. 27, 2013). Read the full story at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-21579762>

MORE CONGRATS TO ...

Bridger artist **Jean Albus**, whose collaboration with Colorado artist Norman Broomhall, titled "Into the Within," is on display April 12-May 3 at Hinter-land Art Space in Denver, CO. According to Albus, "The installation is the result of my recent fascination with the nature of mysterious thickets and the beautiful architecture of magpie nests." Photography is both part of the installation, which includes 11 magpie nests, and is included in a separate wall exhibition.



"Mid-Flight" by Jean Albus

Artist **Olive Parker**, of Stevensville, who received the People's Choice Award for her entry of a hand-carved and colored leather necklace and earring set at the Western Design Conference (WDC) in Jackson, WY, last September. Parker is a participant in the Montana Arts Council's Montana Artrepreneur Program (MAP), and says this about the program: "Thank you for your efforts to transform Montana starving artists into Montana thriving artists! Without the MAP program, I would not have been prepared to exhibit at the WDC. Now because of my award, I am invited to participate in other shows, and am receiving more recognition for my art."



Olive Parker

Livingston artist **Parks Reece**, who was commissioned by Montana's new Gov. Steve Bullock to create an original painting to represent his inauguration and administration. The painting, titled "A Bright Future for Big Sky Country," incorporates many symbols of Montana, including a maiasaura, the state fossil, being chased through the clouds by a Tyrannosaurus rex; the state tree, a Ponderosa pine; the state bird, a western meadowlark; and the state fish, a black-spotted cutthroat trout. The coup de grâce is a cowboy whooping it up on the back of a grizzly bear, the state animal, riding across the plains towards the rising sun. Livingston frame-maker **Dick Murphy** hand built the gray-toned frame and added gold leaf to call to mind the state motto, "Oro y Plata."



"A Bright Future for Big Sky Country" by Parks Reece

Internationally known Montana artist **Theodore Waddell**, who dedicated an original oil-on-paper painting, titled "Evening Sheep," to Laurel High School on March 22. Waddell graduated from Laurel High School in 1959.

Whitefish teenager **Carson Collinworth**, who won the Montana Junior Duck Stamp competition with his oil painting of a nesting Canada goose. This is the third year in a row that a member of the Collinworth family has taken top honors in the contest, and will represent the state in the national Junior Duck Stamp Competition, held this year on April 19 at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, WV. Carson's sister, Kendyl, won the state title the previous two years, but was "ducked out," according to her brother. Five judges deliberated over the 215 entries at the Lee Metcalf National Wildlife Refuge in Stevensville, and praised the winning painting for its detail, shading and accuracy. Bob Danley, the refuge's outdoor recreation planner, told the *Ravalli Republic* that the contest usually attracts around 500 entries. "I think it's probably a sign of the times," he added. "Schools are teaching for the test and there aren't as many art teachers as there used to be." Montana artists have won the national contest twice in its 20-year history. "Connecting kids with nature is the most important thing about this contest," Danley told the newspaper. For information on the annual competition, visit www.fws.gov/juniorduck/States/Montana.htm.



Nesting goose by Carson Collinworth

Helena potter **George McCauley**, whose film tribute to ceramicist Ron Meyers premiered April 7 at the Arkansas Arts Center in Little Rock, AR, in conjunction with a retrospective of the artist's work. McCauley teamed up with Georgia filmmaker Matt DeGennaro to make "Ron Meyers and the Usual Suspects," a documentary about the well-known Georgia clay artist, who is credited with helping revitalize American studio pottery with his functional earthenware vessels and other forms, carved and painted with animals. McCauley also made the film "Archie C. Bray, Life at the Brickyard" in 2009. The recipient of numerous national awards, he has had 23 solo shows and been included in 175 exhibitions. He maintains a studio at his home in Helena, where he makes colorful earthenware pots and narrative sculpture.

Filmmakers **Sabrina Lee** and **Shasta Grenier**, whose film "Not Yet Begun to Fight" won the 2013 Big Sky Award, given each year to the best documentary film about the American West screened during the Big Sky Documentary Film Festival. The 60-minute film tells the story of a retired Marine colonel who brings five traumatically wounded military veterans to Montana to learn to fly fish. Notably, that film's director of photography, **Justin Lubke**, won the Big Sky Award in 2008 for his film, "Class C." "The Thick Dark Fog," a film by **Randy Vasquez** about a Lakota man's efforts to reclaim his heritage, was honored with a Big Sky Artistic Vision citation. More than 100 filmmakers and dozens of industry professionals attended this year's festival, which featured 10 straight days of screenings at the historic Wilma Theatre and the Crystal Theatre in downtown Missoula, Feb. 15-24.

The nine artists who received Grants to Artists funding from the Myrna Loy Center in Helena. This year's recipients are photographer **Jeff Van Tine** and performance artist **Jennifer Thompson**, \$1,200 for an exhibit titled "Celebrating" Wild Montana; saxophonist **Wilbur Rehmann** and pianist **Bob Packwood**, \$2,500 to make a recording of tunes by the great jazz composer and arranger Billy Strayhorn; **Becca Leaphart**, \$1,112 for researching and writing a novella and holding a reading; **Heather Barnes**, \$1,500 for a Montana concert tour by Diagenesis Duo, with cellist **Jennifer Brewser**; and married couple and musicians **Hilde Clark-Snustad** and **Xavier Alejandro Reyes-Ochoa**, who are making a musical video recording as The Glacial Drift duo and performing a concert. In addition, Leaphart, Barnes, The Glacial Drift and **Connor Lachenbruch**, the composer of a work titled "Chairea," received in-kind grants for the use of the Myrna, as a performance space, valued at \$550 each.

The winners of the **Zoo Music Awards**, who took top honors March 2 at an awards ceremony at the Wilma Theatre in Missoula. The winners, selected by a panel of judges in each of nine categories, are:

Traff the Wiz, hip-hop and spoken word; **Muzikata**, funk, soul and reggae; **Kris Moon**, electronica/DJ; the **Kitchen Dwellers**, country and bluegrass; **The Hasslers**, singer/songwriter and folk; **The Boxcutters**, jazz and blues; **Miller Creek**, psychedelic and jam band; **Minors in Possession (MIP)**, heavy metal and punk; and **Airstream Safari**, indie pop and rock. The awards, sponsored by the Missoula Independent and Montana Radio Company are designed to thank and celebrate musicians and show support for local music. Winners received a trophy, a performance at Monks and a live recording of their set by the Montana Musicians and Artists Coalition, recording and photography sessions, and a custom-designed event poster.

The **MAPS Media Institute** in Hamilton, which received a \$10,000 grant from the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation. This marks the third consecutive year the foundation has awarded a grant to the program, which was founded in 2004 to give students real-life experience in media production. Mike Halligan, executive director of the Washington Foundation, said the MAPS program embodies the foundation's mission to "give people the tools to enhance the quality of their lives and to benefit society as a whole. Our foundation's continuing support of MAPS is well earned because they consistently achieve this goal." Funded by the Irwin and Florence Rosten Foundation, the after-school program is free of charge to Ravalli County students, grades 8-12. MAPS derives its funding from foundation grants and fees from clients who hire MAPS students to produce commercials, documentaries and other media materials. This ability to attract clients and revenue allows the program to do pro-bono work for a variety of community organizations. Most recently, MAPS has produced media for the Bitterroot Youth Homes, The North Valley Library and the Soroptimists.

The weekly radio program **Mountain West Voices**, which received a \$5,000 grant from Humanities Montana. The program's six-minute vignettes, which air periodically on both the Montana Public Radio Station and Yellowstone Public Radio, offer a variety of historical and contemporary stories featuring the people of Montana, ranging from young to old, telling their unique and mesmerizing stories. Only in its second year, the Mountain West Voices program opens a dialogue among the people, and paints a picture of the extraordinarily colorful human landscape of Montana.

Congrats compiled by Kristi Niemeyer

Alpine Theatre Project upgrades to ATP 2.0

After six months of planning, and numerous discussions with donors and patrons, Alpine Theatre Project of Whitefish has unveiled a bold new upgrade to its operations that it's calling "ATP 2.0."

The professional theatre company has been presenting musicals, plays, and concerts with Broadway talent since 2004. The organization began the next chapter of its story by hiring Brian "Chip" Scott as the new managing development director. Scott will oversee ATP's daily business operations, including its fundraising activities.

"ATP is growing into a brand new phase of its life," said co-founder and artistic director Betsi Morrison. "We see great things ahead, and it was time to upgrade our operating system to ensure that those great things happen. We couldn't be more thrilled to have Chip Scott joining our team."

Scott, who has a master's degree in leadership education, comes to ATP after years of professional experience in fund development and marketing. His latest project was raising funds for the Grand Teton Music Festival in Jackson Hole, WY.



Alpine Theatre Company's new Managing Development Director Brian "Chip" Scott (left) joins co-founders Luke Walrath and Betsi Morrison, ATP President Nancy Gordley, and retiring President Sean Frampton. (Photo by Jessica Lowry)

"Having Chip on the ATP team will allow us to restructure the company in a way that aligns everyone with their skill set and passion," says co-founder Luke Walrath, who will now focus his efforts on performing and overseeing ATP's educational outreach programs.

The management restructuring is one of four upgrade areas, or "bug fixes," that ATP

2.0 will address in the coming years. Other areas include increasing its educational outreach programs, finding space for artist housing, shop and rehearsal space, and rotating its summer productions with a core company of Broadway actors.

The board of directors will also undergo changes, as Flathead businesswoman Nancy Gordley becomes president, replacing retiring president Sean Frampton. Both Gordley and Frampton have served on ATP's board since the company's inception.

"Sean has been instrumental in making ATP a vibrant arts company," said Gordley. "We will miss his tireless dedication as he moves on to other projects, and I am looking forward to helping lead ATP into this exciting transition."

Alpine Theatre Project will kick off the 2.0 upgrade this summer by presenting a grand overview of Broadway's best shows performed by some of Broadway's best performers.

For more information on ATP 2.0, as well as a complete business plan, call 406-862-7469 or visit atpwhitefish.org.



5

TRANSITIONS



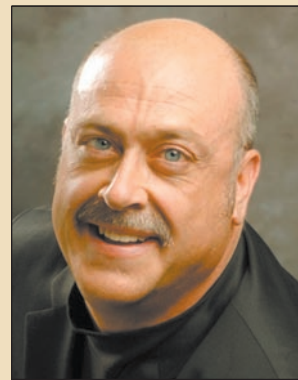
Michael D. Duchemin

Welcome to **Michael D. Duchemin**, who takes the helm as the new executive director of the C.M. Russell Museum in Great Falls on May 1. He comes to the museum from Los Angeles, where he has been affiliated with several cultural institutions. Duchemin previously served for more than 16 years as curator of the Autry National Center of the American West in Los Angeles. He also served as museum department head for the Arizona Historical Society-Central Arizona Division, and most recently was the executive director for the Chinese-American Museum at El Pueblo del Los Angeles Historical Monument in Los Angeles. He holds a doctor of philosophy degree in history from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, a master's degree in history from Arizona State University, and a bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point. "We are enormously pleased to have someone of Michael's intellect, capability, experience, and passion to lead the C.M. Russell Museum," said Joe Masterson, chairman of the C.M. Russell Museum board of directors. Duchemin says he looks forward to working with the staff and board at the museum and getting to know Great Falls and Montana. "The C.M. Russell Museum is, without doubt, one of the finest Western art museums in the country and I am eager to contribute to its continued success," he said. Duchemin is married to Päivi Hoikkala, professor of U.S. history at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, CA.

So long and best wishes to **Sandra Culhane**. The executive director of the Billings Symphony Orchestra and Chorale has accepted the position of executive director with the Boise Symphony in Idaho. Culhane joined the BSO&C in June 2005, and during her tenure, the organization's budget grew by 38 percent. "I have truly enjoyed being a part of the tremendous success of the Billings Symphony," she says. "The orchestra and chorale are cultural jewels of this region, and I'm awed by the reach of this great organization." Music director Anne Harrigan praises Culhane's many contributions to the Billings Symphony. "It is a tribute to her immense talent that the Boise Symphony reached out to her and asked her to assume their organization's highest position," she says. Culhane's departure is effective May 1, and she will continue in a consulting role until a successor is in place.

So long and best wishes to **Douglas Nagel**, who is retiring as artistic director of Rimrock Opera in Billings following the production of Verdi's "Aida" on April 27. Described as the "grandest of the grand operas," the production demonstrates the strides

the company has made under Nagel's leadership and artistic vision since its debut in 1998. Nagel, a nationally and internationally known opera baritone in his own right, has led Rimrock Opera through 14 seasons and 23 mainstage productions, a world premiere of the opera "Nosferatu," many school tours throughout Montana, a regional voice competition, and numerous summer opera festivals. He will maintain connections with the company while continuing as assistant professor of voice and choral studies at Montana State University Billings. Nagel leaves on a high note: "Aida" is his most ambitious undertaking yet, with a cast of more than 80 people, and including live animals from Zoo Montana on the stage, a 25-piece orchestra in the pit, and artists with international credits singing the starring roles.



Douglas Nagel

CONDOLENCES TO ...

The friends and family of long-time arts supporter **Kathleen Hager Turman**. She died Jan. 2 in Enumclaw, WA, after a gradual decline from the effects of Alzheimer's disease. Born in Miles City in 1931, she grew up in Big Timber and studied music at The University of Montana. She and her husband, George Turman, returned to Missoula in 1965 and settled in George's childhood home. She was a skillful political partner to her husband, who served as mayor of Missoula, a state legislator, public service commissioner and lieutenant governor. She was also a tireless supporter of civic and cultural causes throughout the state, including the Missoula Art Museum, Montana Arts Council and the Archie Bray Foundation.

The friends and family of **Delena "Kitty" Havens**. She died Feb. 20 in Billings at age 91. She and her husband, who were married 71 years, moved to Billings in 1986 to be close to their daughter and family. An avid oil painter whose paintings won many awards, she was known for her mastery of the technique of reverse painting on glass. She also loved to travel and her adventures included almost careening off a steep mountainside road in Yugoslavia and being escorted by bodyguards through crowded streets in Columbia. Those who knew her were surprised by the details of these more exotic travel experiences due to her gentle nature and desire for safety and predictable living situations. She was a woman who held a degree of hidden surprise, which made her all the more interesting.

The family and friends of longtime arts supporter **Beth (Sheffels) Wolff**. She died March 16 in Great Falls at age 86. She grew up on the family farm north of Great Falls, and attended Stephens College and Stanford University, graduating in 1948. She then spent a memorable summer studying at Oxford University, followed by three years in the U.S. Navy. On her return to Montana, she spent a session as a clerk to Charlie Bovey at the Montana State Legislature, and then worked for several businesses in Great Falls and helped run the family farm. She and her late husband, Joe Wolff, loved to travel, learn and enjoy art. She was an active member of many civic organizations, a supporter and benefactor of Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art, and helped start NPR in Great Falls.



Sandra Culhane



Meet up with MAC on Facebook

"Like" us for updates on Montana Arts Council activities and opportunities, as well as information for and about artists, arts events and organizations across the state: www.facebook.com/pages/Montana-Arts-Council/347466251951287.



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Montana Rep is booking fall Outreach Tour

The Montana Repertory Theatre is taking bookings for its fall Educational Outreach Tour, which starts Sept. 9 and runs through the middle of November.

This year's show is "Of Mice and Men and Rock 'n Roll (A Road Trip through the Literary Landscapes of John Steinbeck)," a 50-minute comedy by Jay Kettering. The play finds a young John Steinbeck, on his way to becoming a great writer, sitting in the driver's seat next to his faithful dog Charley. He has picked up a teenage hitchhiker with the heart and soul of a rock 'n roller, and together they travel across America, encountering numerous characters from Steinbeck's writings.

This year's show costs \$550 and includes an accompanying workshop.

For details on the tour and Montana Repertory Theatre, visit www.montana-rep.org, or contact Teresa Waldorf, Educational Outreach coordinator, at 406-243-2854 or teresa.waldorf@umontana.edu.

ARTS EDUCATION

Helena freshman wins state Poetry Out Loud contest

Taylor Blossom, a freshman at Capital High School in Helena, won the eighth annual Montana Poetry Out Loud State Finals, a program of the Montana Arts Council. The competition, held March 9 in Helena, recognizes one high school competitor to represent Montana in the National Poetry Out Loud competition, presented by the National Endowment for the Arts and The Poetry Foundation. Blossom, who took top honors with his recitation of "Kubla Khan" by Samuel Taylor Coleridge, will compete in Washington, D.C., April 29-30.

"I really didn't expect to win," he told the *Independent Record*, adding, "I like speaking in public and poetry gives you the chance to do that."

Blossom receives a \$200 cash award and an all-expenses-paid trip with a chaperone to the national finals, where he will compete for a \$20,000 college scholarship. Blossom's school also receives \$500 to purchase poetry books for its library.

The Montana Arts Council also recognizes the importance of teacher involvement and provides for the winner's teacher to travel to Washington, D.C.

Runner-up in the Montana State competition is Stella Shannon, a junior at Hellgate High School in Missoula. She won \$100, and her high school receives \$200 towards the purchase of poetry books for the school's library.

Savannah Smith, a freshman at Helena High School in Helena, took third place.

Participating students competed at the classroom and school level. School winners went on to regional competitions.

The 2013 Montana finals hosted 20 students from communities across the state. Eight students were recognized as finalists in the state competition: Kim Biere and Cortney Walsh, Butte High; Taylor Blossom, Capital High; Dan Cashell and Savannah Smith, Helena High; and Dan Cook, Austin Graef and Stella Shannon, Hellgate High.



Taylor Blossom, left, took top honors at the Montana Poetry Out Loud finals; Stella Shannon (center) was runner-up; and Savannah Smith (right) took third place.

Montana's Poetry Out Loud coordinator, Margaret Belisle, said of the program: "Educators recognize the need to cultivate the art of recitation. Since 2006, seven Montana state winners have attended the national finals in Washington, DC, and thousands of students across Montana have experienced the power of recitation through classroom, school, regional and state competition.

"Every year more teachers and schools realize the potential of this program as they illustrate a desire to challenge students to memorize and perform the spoken word that is not just educational but critical in a world of texting and sound bites.

"This year nearly 4,000 Montana students participated in Poetry Out Loud. This level of participation demonstrates the positive effect the arts have on the education of our young people. Every participating student developed their abilities to read and interpret, memorize works of literature and speak to large groups

of people. The skills the arts provide to our children will serve them throughout their lives."

About the judges

Judges for the Montana Poetry Out Loud competition included:

Anne Bauer, who teaches at Carroll College; her chapbook, *Fine Absence*, won the Pavement Saw Press's Chapbook Award in 2011.

Loren Graham, a teacher at Carroll College and recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship; he has three books of poetry published.

Lowell Jaeger teaches creative writing at Flathead Valley Community College in Kalispell. He is the author of four collections of poems. In 2009, he received the Montana Governor's Humanities Award for his work in promoting civic discourse.

Melissa Kwasny, a poet and teacher for Lesley University's graduate program, has written four books of poetry and two novels. She also has a collection of essays just out titled *Earth Recitals: Essays on Image and Vision*.

Mark Gibbons, the Poetry Out Loud performance consultant, has published six books of poetry. Gibbons works for the Missoula Writing Collaborative, is an artist-in-residence with the Montana Arts Council, and has been involved with Poetry Out Loud since its inception.

About Poetry Out Loud

Poetry Out Loud seeks to foster the next generation of literary readers by capitalizing on the latest trends in poetry – recitation and performance. The program invites the dynamic aspects of slam poetry, spoken word, and theater into the English class. Through Poetry Out Loud, students can master public speaking skills, build self-confidence and learn about their literary heritage. For more information, visit www.poetryoutloud.org.



Semi-finalists in the Poetry Out Loud competition were (left to right): first row: Taylor Blossom, Capital High, Helena; Stella Shannon, Hellgate High, Missoula; Kali Taylor, and Kim Biere, Butte High. Second row: Cortney Walsh, Butte High; Benjamin Burdick, Billings Senior High; Kelsey McFeely, Whitefish High; Austin Graef, Hellgate High; Kendra Anderson, Billings Senior High; Jocelyn Gates, Capital High; and Savannah Smith, Helena High. Third row: Karis Bedey, Hamilton High; Alex Kostelnik and Juliet Hundahl, Choteau High; Dan Cook, Hellgate High; Jessica Sheldahl, Helena High; and Rachel Devine, Corvallis High. Back row: Kenny Painter, Billings Senior High; Jude MacDonald, Choteau High; and Dan Cashell, Helena High.

Photos by Robyn Duff

Studio offers scholarship opportunity for Gallatin County students

Cobalt Moose Art Studios of Bozeman is offering a scholarship opportunity for Gallatin County High School students in grades 9-12 in the form of a juried competition.

This call is for artists working in traditional two-dimensional media only; sculpture, fiber arts, photography, and digital arts fall outside these parameters. Application deadline is June 30.

Five finalists will be selected by jury to participate in the third annual Art on the Lawn, Aug. 17 on the studio grounds in

Bozeman, and the winner will be selected by nationally known artist Aaron Schuerr of Livingston.

In addition, finalists will participate in a complementary framing session in preparation for the event, and will receive professional mentorship, including instruction on presentation of artwork.

The scholarship will be funded by 50 percent of the sales from the silent auction during the event. Studio co-owner Terry Hall estimates, based on previous sales totals and

an increase in artist participation, that the scholarship will range between \$1,500 and \$3,000.

Hall says the studio hopes to open the scholarship to students from a wider geographical area next year. "We wanted to stick closer to home to sort of break ground. Our hope is that this will turn into a great opportunity for students who wish to pursue a career in fine art."

Visit www.cobaltmoose.com and click on the Scholarship 2013 link for more details.

ARTS IN EDUCATION

An elevator speech on Visual Thinking Strategies

By Sondra Hines
Curator of Education,
Holter Museum of Art

I was asked a few weeks ago to prepare an elevator speech explaining Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) to someone who knows nothing about it. Realizing that not many people know anything about VTS, I imagined stepping onto an elevator in Helena. No, — let's put the elevator in San Diego — it's much warmer there in March.

A friendly person on the elevator with me (noticing my pasty white winter complexion, I'm sure) asks where I'm visiting from. I explain that I'm in town from Montana for a training in Visual Thinking Strategies. "Oh, what's that?" she says.

I ask her to imagine a group of third graders who are looking at a carefully selected sculpture and sharing ideas about "what is going on with" the large figure. The docent leading this tour asks, "What do you see that makes you say that?" and off they go.

Each comment leads to another and the students are supporting their thoughts and ideas with visual evidence from the artwork. "I think he might be watching animals!" "He looks like he's sitting on a rock and is very quiet."

One student disagrees with this comment and explains why. "I think he's an explorer, because he's carrying binoculars and his face looks inquisitive." Inquisitive!! He actually said inquisitive!

The docent facilitating the discussion responds by paraphrasing each response and asking the group "What more can we find?"

The atmosphere is electric and hands are flying up as others see something else or think



Docent employs Visual Thinking Strategies while working with students at the Holter Museum of Art.

(Photo by Sondra Hines)

of something in a different way. Students are energized and engaged through critical thinking and discussion. The teacher is excited because of the amazing ideas that are being shared and the docent is excited because art is the object that is bringing it all together.

After an interaction like this we often hear comments such as, "I couldn't believe what the students were coming up with," and "I've looked at that piece of artwork a dozen times and I never thought of it in that way," or "Their thinking was so creative and sometimes profound."

These reactions are what motivate our staff and docents to be effective facilitators of Visual Thinking Strategy discussions. It takes a significant commitment to training and practice to become proficient at teaching VTS. Our professional staff and volunteers have worked

hard to achieve the level of expertise required to be effective facilitators, but the learning is fun and motivating.

We get together regularly for VTS soirees. Imagine a group of people sipping wine while discussing a replica of a Norman Rockwell painting. The discussion is lively, the learning is genuine, and the atmosphere is really fun.

At the Holter Museum of Art, we strive to provide authentic and fun experiences for groups that come to the museum for docent-led tours. We help create an environment that helps students feel comfortable in museums and give them tools that support their classroom learning and (dare I say) life skills. VTS is an integral part of our program that helps us achieve our goals.

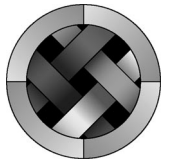
I remember my classroom teaching days and trying to get students to expand on their writing or thinking and how difficult it was at times to get them to elaborate on their ideas. I wish I had known about VTS back then!

It's exciting and almost magical to see them apply their VTS experience to other areas of learning. Teachers tell me that they have seen their students' writing improve after several sessions of VTS.

These are things that keep me motivated about this method of teaching. I guarantee that after a VTS discussion you will always remember the piece of artwork you discussed. That's an added bonus!

Oh, what floor are we on?

You can find out more about VTS
www.vtshome.org.



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T.E.A. grants available

The Montana Arts Council continues to offer Teacher Exploration of the Arts (TEA) grants. This program is for elementary classroom teachers or K-8 teachers with an elementary endorsement, who are asked to teach visual art or music and do not have a background in that subject, and wish to work one-on-one with a professional working artist in order to develop skills in a particular artistic discipline.

Disciplines include dance, literary arts, media arts, music, theatre and visual arts.

For more information, go to art.mt.gov/schools/schools_tea.asp.

THE LITERARY LANDSCAPE

Express to Speak: Youth program fosters self-expression

Tahj Kjelland grew up with music — his mother, Mary Place, is a Missoula musical fixture — and most of his first memories center around music and performance. From these musical beginnings Tahj has developed an exciting new program called Express to Speak, to help youth find their individual voices in an increasingly complex world.

Tahj says that the program is not just about music; it's also about social justice, a deep concern of his own since he was a teenager and trying to find his own way in the world. In his own development as a performer, he experimented with mixing music and poetry in ways that emphasized self-empowerment and ethical behavior.

"The whole time I was still working with words," he says. "I was very attuned to injustice and I was experimenting with ways to express my concerns." He began developing the blueprint for what would later become Express to Speak while leading poetry workshops at the Boys and Girls Club in Missoula, an organization his mother ran at the time.

Tahj explains his early process: "First we'd write. Then we'd go out onto Higgins Avenue and I'd get the kids to perform on the street corner — performing for the cars, just to get them over their fears."

Five years later, he is fine tuning the program, working with the group Arising Nation, a Native American spoken word/youth empowerment group based in Fort Peck. "There's a strong emphasis on critical thinking and reflection," he says. "If youth know who they are, if they're more comfortable in their skin, then I believe they'll be more successful throughout life. Combining the skills involved in writing and performing can help



Tahj Kjelland performs at a poetry slam.
(Photo courtesy of Humanities Montana)

with both the thinking/feeling part and the confidence part."

Express to Speak programs continue to evolve; each is especially tailored to the group's interests and needs, however the basic format follows several steps. "I start out performing something with a beat, loud, kind of shocking, just to wake the kids up, startle them. Then I lead a brainstorming session where I help them start to free associate, get over the fear of judgment, asking them to throw words out there while I write them down as fast as I can."

Tahj then takes the results and improvises a piece using the storm of words. "I describe it to them as a smoothie. Who doesn't like a smoothie? I blend up the words like they were bananas and blueberries and strawberries and we see what it tastes like."

The final steps help the kids internalize the public "brainstorming" and "smoothie" processes, and connect the group of words to their own experiences.

"Instead of shouting out words I have them write down their own storm of words on a piece of paper, no thinking, just letting the unconscious mind come out. Then they're asked to take those words and turn them into any sort of piece they want. And finally I get them to perform what they've created. Almost all of them will perform at least a little bit."

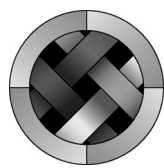
In the past year Tahj has given his program at a number of schools and worked with a variety of youth programs including, in Missoula, Willard Alternative High School, Hellgate High School, Big Sky High School, and Washington Middle School. He's also traveling as much as he can across the state, providing workshops in Fort Peck High School, Bitterroot Youth Homes, Custer County High School in Miles City, Simms High School, and Two Eagle River School in Pablo.

Express to Speak is available through the Humanities Montana Speakers in the Schools program, a program that has allowed Tahj to present workshops to over 1,000 school-aged kids so far, and perform for over 3,000. He's finishing a degree in social work at The University of Montana and considering pursuing a graduate degree in the field.

Express to Speak is on its way to non-profit status and greater exposure around the state. In the future, Tahj hopes to expand the program by training youth leaders in Express to Speak facilitation. In the meantime, teachers and others interested in the workshops can find more information about Humanities Montana's Speakers in the Schools program at www.humanitiesmontana.org.

For more information on Express to Speak check out the Facebook page: www.facebook.com/pages/Express-To-Speak/544901178870222?ref=ts

Or visit the program description on the Humanities Montana site: www.humanitiesmontana.org/programs/mtconversations/speakers/cat_kjelland_expresstospeak.php?cat=sis



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LITERARY LANDSCAPE

The state of out-of-state arts

By Sneed B. Collard III

Election night, I – like many of you – got a televised view of McCormick Place, Chicago, where thousands of Obama supporters came to celebrate. I watched the event with added interest, however. Why? Because my wife and I had recently been there as participants in the country's largest educational event, the convention of the International Reading Association.

Each year, between eight and twenty thousand teachers, librarians, and other educators attend IRA. Publishers and other educational entities set up acres of booths, and for obvious reasons. The convention offers a rare chance to connect with the most influential educators in the country. For authors, it's a chance to meet people, sign books and land speaking invitations.

I had spoken and signed books at the convention half a dozen times before 2012, but with the struggling economy and floundering publishing industry, I decided to step up my game. For the first time, I joined a small number of other authors in buying my own booth.

The only problem was money. The cost of the booth alone ran \$1,600. Add in airfare, hotel and meals, and receipts promised to top \$4,000. To help me with this prohibitive figure, I applied for one of MAC's Strategic Investment Grants and happily received one. Still, I wondered, would the cost be worth it?

I cannot produce any charts and graphs, but my gut answers a resounding "yes." During the three days of the convention, hundreds of teachers from all over the country stopped by my booth. I also spoke at two separate IRA sessions. I didn't come home with cash in my pockets, but did get something more important – the foundation for a lot of future business.

I conservatively estimate that 90 percent of my income is generated outside of Montana, both from speaking invitations and book sales. The challenge is how to find that work. Nothing in my 30-year career has worked like meeting teachers and book-buyers face-to-face.

This isn't really a surprise. When I meet an author personally, I take a much greater interest in his or her work. The same is true for teachers. It's hard to gauge the effect on book

sales, but almost *all* of my speaking invitations come from conventions such as IRA. In fact, I have already received two important speaking invitations from the recent convention in Chicago.

I feel so strongly about the benefits of these conferences that I have signed up for a booth at next year's IRA convention in San Antonio. Once again, I have been fortunate to receive a Strategic Investment Grant to help make the enterprise feasible.

Of course, you might ask, "Is this a wise use of SIG funds?" Well, remember that statement that 90 percent of my income is generated out of state? Guess where 90 percent of that income is *spent*? Right here in Montana. It's a no-brainer that each grant invested in artists reaps rich rewards, not just for we artists, but for the entire state.

Being an author or artist is not for the faint of heart. Most of us constantly struggle to make ends meet. I am so grateful that forward-thinking policy makers have made funds available to help me and others do what we do best. Thank you MAC, the State of Montana, and the National Endowment for the Arts (yes, that is the *Federal government!*) for having the wisdom to invest in our collective future.



Sneed Collard lives in Missoula and is the author of more than 60 books for children. In 2006, he received the *Washington Post* Children's Book Guild Nonfiction Writer of the Year Award for his body of work.

Web resources for writers

Every Writer's Resource, www.everywritersresource.com: This website offers a listing of the top 50 literary magazines, as well as the top 50 online literary magazines. The abundant content also includes a list of book and magazine publishers, tips for students in university writing programs, suggestions on how to promote your writing, and print-on-demand resources.

Poets & Writers, www.pw.org: Considered by many to be the best source for poets and writers, this website offers features from the award-winning print edition, daily news items, advice from writers, and a popular blog about writing contests.

MONTANA POET LAUREATE

The Dangers of Non-Fiction

by Sheryl Noethe

Working at the Homeless Shelter

Photo by Kurt Wilson

Reluctantly he relinquished the pills he'd been hoarding.
I'd stolen his suicide, forced him to live again,
For those feelings, he said, I hate you, mama bear.
I wanted to tell his story to the world;
how easily people lose everything, through tragedy,
through drink, geeking and gacking and tweaking.
Women whose violent husbands cost them their children.
Women with no teeth.

His story came out in the newspaper,
when someone found his son and his wife
were not dead, just a divorce.
To Robert this separation was death.
He believed his terrible story, and so did we.

The article appeared the next day revealing his fictions.
He slipped away before dawn, his backpack and light coat,
his fever, and his missing teeth.
Gone, not a word, no phone calls, not a look behind.
He told me he could not make it on the streets again.
You don't know how brutal it is, he said.
Now he's out there, by himself, the seven dollars
I gave him folded into his jeans.

It's turning winter, and he can't make it on the streets.
Because he believed his fiction. Which of us don't?
What if our fabrications were laid bare? Who would run?
The truth won't keep you alive on the road.
He crossed Key West, dipping first into the Atlantic,
then just a few steps to the Pacific, and celebrated
with pitchers of tequila, cases of beer and strangers.

He was at the ocean. He did have a wife, work, a PhD.
I believe his little brother died of asthma on the school bus.
I wanted to shelter him like a brother, I wanted
to bring him into my world.
Daily I pound it into my head
he was not my own. All I have left is his story,
all I have left is what I thought I'd known.

Organization aids and represents freelance writers

Founded in 1948, the American Society of Journalists and Authors (ASJA) is the nation's professional organization of independent nonfiction writers, and consists of more than 1,300 freelance writers of magazine articles, trade books, and many other forms of nonfiction writing.

ASJA offers benefits and services focusing on professional development, including regular confidential market information, meetings with editors and others in the field, a referral service, seminars and workshops, discount services, and the opportunity for members to explore professional issues and concerns with their peers.

ASJA also represents freelancers' interests, serving as spokesman for their right to control and profit from uses of their work in the new media and otherwise. It also helps provide ready access to writers proven in the marketplace, capable of producing articles, books, brochures and scripts through its Freelance Writer Search.

ASJA headquarters are in New York City, and the society has active regional chapters throughout the U.S.

Learn more at www.asja.org.

ABOUT MUSIC

– By Mariss McTucker

Little Jane and the Pistol Whips: *Each Little Note*

Recorded, mixed, and produced by Fred Baker at Electric Peak Recording, Gardiner, MT; mastered by Jim DeMain at YesMaster, Nashville, TN, 2013

Montana native and Livingston songwriter/guitarist Ashly J. Holland and her band have put out another winner in this nine-song effort of refreshing country music.

Sparse and well produced, it features Tom Murphy, mandolin and background vocals, and Tony Polecastro, banjo, Dobro, and vocals (“You and I Fit”). Pistol Whip Jamey Warren plays bass when the band is live.

As usual, Holland wrote all the songs; they are so accessible that any number of country artists could record them tomorrow. And her voice has that pure and vibrant quality that the music demands.

“Small Town Girl” strolls softly in, a country loper. Murphy provides stellar background vocals on this and others, nuances of Emmylou Harris/Herb Pedersen vocal harmonies back in the day. Soft banjo cushions “Simone, Simone,” with another great harmony from Murphy. (“Please don’t frighten me. I’m not the one who killed you, love. I cannot set you free.”)

“Hey, Hey, Hey” is a quick bluegrassier that rocks along with crisp mandolin and the fleet-fingered bent notes of the Dobro. Holland intones, “I pray, pray, God lets me keep you just one more day,” into the catchy refrain. “I would shout it from the highest peak, I would whisper it to you, my sweet, my sweet, my sweet, my sweet.”

Holland’s hooks are simple, universal; they don’t seem to draw lots of attention – but they work perfectly. That’s part of what makes a good songwriter. The repetitive refrain is spot-on to keep this one clicking, with smokin’ leads traded by mando and Dobro. Sweet, definitely!

Enter the gossamer strains of Dobro in an aching love song, “So Slowly.” It’s Patsy Cline all over the place, dripping with creamy mandolin tremolo and some Dolly trills thrown in from Holland’s excellent pipes.

The last number is an unabashed love song, a vocal duet with Polecastro. Holland admits some of the songs here are written “with the tones of love and happiness (not something I usually write about).” Good for her!

Visit www.littlejaneandthepistolwhips.com.



Wylie and the Wild West: *Sky Tones: Songs of Montana*

Engineered by Mark Thornton and Larry Marrs, mixed by Marrs, recorded at Sidekick Sound Studios, and produced by Wylie Gustafson, Nashville, TN, 2012

With his new CD, one of Montana’s most prolific songwriters and “a simple cow-horse man from the Big Sky Country” has given us a treasure-trove of the songs about Montana that he’s recorded over his career.

Re-recorded and produced by the same crew in Nashville responsible for last year’s gem, *Rocketbuster*, and featuring a slew of the same pickers, this compilation is vintage Wylie Gustafson.

The studio musicians include Dennis Crouch, bass, John McTigue, drums, Mark Thornton, guitar, Robby Turner, steel, Jeff Taylor, accordion, and Larry Marrs, background vocals.

The CD has a cross-section of what the native son describes as tunes about the “beauty of such a stunning land and the charm of her characters.” Possessing a spiritual love for his state and unabashedly crooning about it is Wylie’s forte; it doesn’t hurt that the Yodel King packs the musical muscle to pull it off in grand style.

Nuggets abound, from ballads to snappy dancers and back again. There’s the boogie-fied “Buck Up and Huck It”; the swiny and shuffly “M-m-m Montana”; the Bob Wills-inspired “Whoop Up Trail” (“ridin’, ropin’, lopin’, laughin’...”), featuring some tasty yodeling; and don’t forget “Yodeling Fool,” from 1993’s *Wylie and the Wild West Show* recording.

You got your “Hi-Line Polka” and its rockin’ rhythm (“yeah, you betcha”), and the sweet waltz, “Ridin’ the Hi-Line.” The boy from Conrad never forgets his roots, and neither will you when you listen to this collection.

Visit the artist at www.wyliewebsite.com.

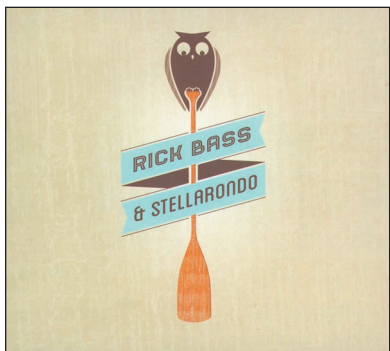


Rick Bass and Stellarondo

Recorded live by engineers Adam Selzer and John Askew at Type Foundry, Portland, OR; produced by Caroline Keys and Rick Bass, 2012

This ambitious self-titled album, the brainchild of Missoula guitarist and composer Caroline Keys and her folk orchestra Stellarondo, marries music to the words of noted Yaak author Rick Bass. It was born out of a conversation the band had on a long trip to record in Portland; when they mentioned the idea to their friend Bass, who was to write liner notes for that recording; he became intrigued, and the idea took flight.

There are three short stories and one essay here, featuring Stellarondo members Keys on resonator, kalimba, banjo, and guitar; Travis Yost on double bass, snare and bass drums; Bethany Joyce on Wurlitzer, cello and saw; and Gibson



Hartwell, guitar, pedal steel, octave mandolin, and railway junk (yep). Several contribute “noise,” as well.

Bass provides the spoken words and Stellarondo makes his imaginings manifest. The author’s tales are epic journeys that continually unfold, leading us hither and yon, all the while clinging to that thread of total believability. His tightly-written tales are so visual they need no accompaniment, yet Stellarondo has given the listener a new perspective – a storyboard for the mind.

The first number, “Canoeists,” opens with the flowing sustain of an arpeggio, a waltz that relaxes into the words of Bass as it fades into the whisper of a guitar chord. Bass speaks in a rush, setting the scene of two young lovers on a canoe trip, not knowing where the day will take them. They paddle, swim, and relax in the sun, drinking in nature, “... unconcerned by notions or constraints of time, and the amount of water that had passed by ...” A soft cello and guitar line ushers the piece into the evening.

“The Bear” begins with what could be the prelude to a k.d. lang song, with its cool ’60s country-soft, pedal-steel backdrop. Helen is a dying old woman, isolated in the woods, whose only companion is a huge black bear that frequents her surroundings; she feeds it and dreams about it. We hear quiet musical tones, hardly audible. Enter tingly, whispery guitar strains that morph into the slowly rumbling train sound of a double-bass, rising up, as Bass declaims, “the bear ... appeared so gradually, so slowly, blackness appearing from out of blackness ... moving so carefully, so stealthily, as to seem like a man in a costume of a bear ...”

This is but a smattering of the musical wordplay going on during this unique contribution to the spoken-word genre. Visit stellarondo.com for more information.

Bob Phillips: *Rough Road Rebel*

Recorded and produced by Dory Ritrovato at Ghetto Recording, Butte, MT

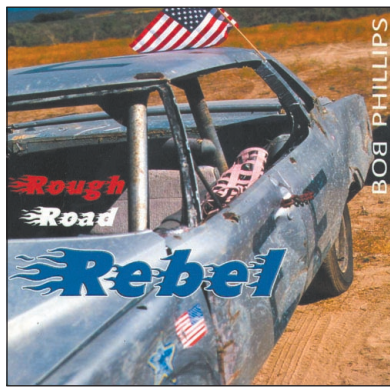
Montana-born-and-raised, Bob Phillips has a new CD out, singing and playing guitar on 12 originals in the contemporary-folk vein. The writer and troubadour, who worked at various newspapers (and at *Lively Times* for eight years) now lives in Utah and places West. With his rich baritone and simple guitar style, he suffuses his commentaries on life with emotion, a trembly vibrato adding to the ambience.

“Out on the Backroads” comes first, with wolf howls and a spooky sensibility, minor-infused. “I’m no one on the road to nowhere, that’s my motto; my name’s a thing I carry like an old and heavy load,” he intones.

Ever the perceptive journalist, Phillips takes on the movie culture in “Disneyland Dreamin’,” with its seemingly innocent, countrified sound. He takes us to visit Mickey and Minnie, and to taste the carefree, wealthy Hollywood life we all imagine. Yet Phillips takes the lifestyle to task, and the unfeeling culture it creates. “Sometimes I think that blood runs green; it’s the color of money, if you know what I mean.”

Butte, where Phillips lived for a time, gets a storyline of its own, as he tells the tale of a down-and-out soul in “Hard Rock Bottom Town.” “It was me who dug the dirt that always drug me down,” he sings, spitting out “In Butte” like an epithet.

“Paper Boy” is a catharsis of sorts, a recounting of being the “token male” at an office; “Freedom” is slow and sad; and “Home” is an expression of living in the now, searching for peace and stability, something we all crave, and strive for. We are indebted to those who articulate it well.



Dbrunkho: *Songs of the Boneyard*

Recorded and produced by Dan Brunkhorst at Reverse 4 Z Studios, Lewistown, MT, 2012

What an apt title for the new CD from Lewistown percussionist Dan Brunkhorst. It’s spooky and unsettling. He achieves that ambience by manipulating a slew of instruments here: alto and bass clarinets, saxophone, harmonica, guitar, piano/keys, synthesizer, vibraphone and hubcaphone (!), marimba, gong tree, drums, and bowls.

Clearly, Brunkhorst makes a lot of his own instruments. For example, the gong tree is made from plow discs, and the hubcaphone is his own version of Henry Threadgill’s creation.

The album is a hearty soup of experimental sounds, all disquieting yet strangely compelling. The composer uses a synthesizer to filter animal and bird sounds native to Montana, along with notes made by conventional instruments to create improvisational jazz in the tradition of Ornette Coleman and Eric Dolphy, among others.

His 10 originals start with “Circular,” with its percussive plops and sax honks underlain by squiggly drums, building to a spazzy crescendo. “Year of the Rabbit” enters snakelike, with a gurgling sax that sounds like it’s trapped in a bottle; the buzzing-bee sax gets loose on “Red into Blue.”

The compositions are not so much heard by the ears as by the imagination. The crazy mix of sounds evoke scenes in the mind: a xylophone butterfly, maybe, in “Ambervision”; the hypnotic rustling of an aviary, bell-like yet ominous, of “Level III.” “A Goose Keeps Formation through the Fog” is atmospheric.

Some of the compositions seem to evoke conversations – the questioning, tip-toeing sax and the imploring piano of “Buzzkillers”; the mooing, buzzing phrases of “Lazers.” “Frost Free” sounds as if wind chimes are softly blowing, portending the approach of a summer storm.

Brunkhorst channels his imagination through his instruments here, and a wild one it is.

Visit www.myspace.com/dbrunkho.



9

State of the Arts welcomes CDs

State of the Arts welcomes CD submissions by Montana musicians for inclusion in the About Music section. The recordings must be professional, commercially available, full-length CDs, with cover art and liner notes. Brief biographical information on band members would be helpful to the writer.

Please send submissions to either the Montana Arts Council, PO Box 202201, Helena, MT, 59620; or *Lively Times*, 33651 Eagle Pass Trl., Charlo, MT 59824.



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How to submit a book for *State of the Arts*

To submit a book by a Montana author for inclusion in *State of the Arts* "About Books" section:

Please send a copy of the book to *Lively Times*, 33651 Eagle Pass Trl., Charlo, MT 59824; or submit the following information electronically to writesus@livelytimes.com or mac@mt.gov:

- Title, author, publisher, publisher's address and month/year published;
- Price and whether it's hard- or softcover;
- A brief description of the book (no more than 200 words), and a short bio of the author;
- A cover image: minimum 200 dpi in pdf, jpg or tiff file;
- If other publications or authors have reviewed the book, send a brief sampling of those remarks.

If you would like us to return the book, include a note with it saying so. (We will pay for shipping.)

E-books: We'll also mention books that are only electronically published: send title, author, a cover image, website for downloads, and a brief paragraph about the book.

Books submitted to *State of the Arts* appear in this publication at the Montana Arts Council's discretion and as space permits, and will not necessarily be reprinted in *Lively Times*.

ABOUT BOOKS

Bald Eagle Nest: *A Story of Survival in Photos*

By Kate Davis

Published 2013 by Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA

\$16.95 softcover

In 2011, Kate Davis had the rare opportunity to focus her camera, for the better part of four months, on a bald eagle nest containing four chicks that eventually matured and fledged.

"In bald eagles' entire range, about a dozen nests have been documented to fledge four," she notes. "Montana holds the record for a single state, with this nest bringing the total to six."

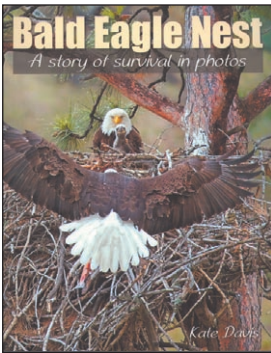
The book contains 100 color photographs that illustrate the progress of the chicks' growth and the close relationship of the diligent parents to their precious, and fast growing family. Each photo is accompanied by interesting facts about these incredible birds, whose population has been recovering since the mid-1970s, when they teetered on the edge of extinction due to pesticide use.

Eagle nests can weigh a thousand pounds, and measure eight feet across and three feet deep. Just after the chicks were about seven weeks old, Davis reports, a huge black bear climbed up the tree to investigate the nest. The mother bird stood her ground on a protective limb, while the father flew at the bear repeatedly for over an hour to discourage it. Thankfully the bear left, and order was restored.

It takes around 75 days for eagle chicks to mature enough to test their fragile wings and leave the nest for periods of time. The family remains together for four to ten weeks before the young strike out on their own. Unfortunately the mortality rate for youngsters is high, with roughly only half of the birds reaching full maturity.

Bald Eagle Nest is a fascinating and scenic look into the lives of these magnificent birds and Davis has done an incredible job of photographing and narrating her observations.

Davis resides in the Bitterroot Valley, where she is the founder and force behind Raptors of the Rockies, and currently conference chairperson for the education committee of the Raptor Research Foundation. She is also the author of the award-winning book *Raptors of the West*, *Falcons of North America* and *Raptors of the Rockies*.



— Judy Shafter

The Friction of Desire

By Sandy Compton

Published 2012 by Blue Creek Press, Heron, MT

\$12.95 softcover

"I have begun to suspect more and more that I am not really the therapist in this relationship; he is," writes psychiatrist Mary Miller of wayward patient Larry Longquist, who paid for 30 sessions in cash, after cashing in his 401K.

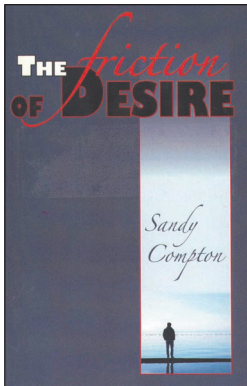
Sandy Compton's fifth book (which the Montana author admits is "somewhat autobiographical") is draped around Dr. Miller's notes about these weekly sessions, and her own revealing responses to her unorthodox client.

Longquist, who struggles to make ends meet, lives in a house that's "a botched hodgepodge of bargains, gifts, salvaged supplies and misplaced labor," suffers from depression, is a recovering addict, and has a history of relationships that fall apart. He's also a writer and world traveler, who just turned 60.

"The more you want something, the harder it is to get." That's Longquist's definition of "the friction of desire," and the title of the autobiography he may or may not be writing.

As his life spills out on each page, the psychiatrist becomes more and more intrigued with her patient until, when the 30 sessions are over, she's in Larry's shoes: worried about what's going to happen next.

Compton lives in Heron, and is the proprietor of Blue Creek Press. He is also the principal writer and storyteller of The Storytelling Company, which produces live shows in Sandpoint, ID.



— Kristi Niemeyer

She Matters: *A Life in Friendships*

By Susanna Sonnenberg

Published 2013 by Scribner, New York, NY

\$24 hardcover

Missoula writer Susanna Sonnenberg has written an eloquent, poetic, frank and unsparing account of her relationships with the many women in her life who "mattered."

Some friendships run very deep and have influenced her in subtle ways that she deftly describes. Others are simpler, not as influential, but still add something notable to the fabric of her existence, shaping her in curious or unexpected ways into the person she is today.

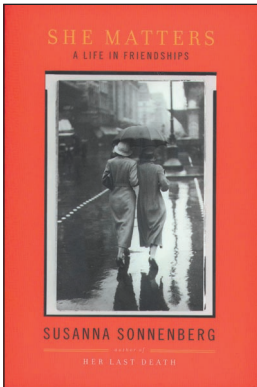
Readers are introduced to boarding school chums, her best friend from summer camp, college pals and the women with whom she formed bonds as a new mother. The rose-colored glasses are off, the warts are out, the good and the bad come spilling forth, revealing a woman who loves deeply and cares a lot.

Understanding female friendships is daunting at best. With unflinching wit, wisdom and clarity, Sonnenberg demonstrates why the women in her book remain connected to her, through their shared experiences and unspoken bonds.

The New York Times praises the book's "imaginative narrative structure, its arresting prose, its raw honesty," and suggests that it might inspire readers "to construct a patchwork quilt of your own life and salute the many women who helped you along the way."

Sonnenberg is also the author of the bestselling book *Her Last Death*.

— Judy Shafter



The River Swimmer

By Jim Harrison

Published 2013 by Grove Press, New York, NY

\$25 hardcover

Part-time Montanan Jim Harrison veers from coming of age to aging in two fluid, oddly tranquil novellas.

In *The Land of Unlikeness*, Clive, a cynical art history professor who gave up painting decades ago, finds a reprieve from his relentless intellectualism at the family farm in Michigan, where he's taking care of his cranky, aging mother for a month. The fecund landscape and the proximity of his first love stir his painterly passions. Soon, he orders a big box of Crayolas and some oils, and paints his childhood room like the inside of a whale skeleton.

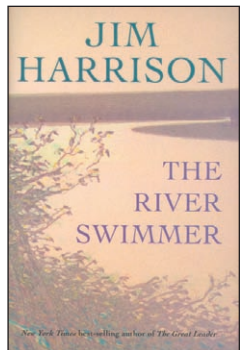
"Clive woke at dawn having lost his self-importance. He didn't know where it had gone but it wasn't in him anymore ... He didn't want to be a painter, he only wanted to paint, two utterly different impulses."

Passion also pervades the second novella, *The River Swimmer*, as young Thad finds adventure and solace in swimming rivers. He grew up on an island in the middle of a large river, and taught himself to swim at age three. He returns to the river again and again to escape the strange currents of his own life – Friendly Frank, who cracks Thad's cheekbone with a barrel stave; young women, who want to claim him for themselves ("If you are not jealous of your freedom who will be for you?" he wonders); and the constant questions from adults about his future.

In consummate Harrison fashion, he strings this story like a yarn drawing that emerges from meandering strand into a textured, complex whole.

Newsweek describes Harrison, who has written more than 30 books of poetry, non-fiction and fiction, as "our greatest nonwriterly writer," and *Publishers Weekly* praises the new novellas as "each striking in their own ways, rich and satisfying."

— Kristi Niemeyer



Notes from the Journey Westward

By Joe Wilkins

Published December 2012 by White Pine Press, Buffalo, NY

\$16 softcover

Montana native Joe Wilkins won the 17th annual White Pine Poetry Prize with his new collection, which judge Sam Green describes as a "ruthless, entirely unsentimental effort to imagine and understand the world he inhabits – and the world that inhabits him."

His poems pluck scraps from the spare prairie where he grew up, the memories of his grandmother, his father's too-young death, and the meager, muscled history of the Plains. He twists these story fragments into surprising, supple narratives.

In the final poem, "The Old Ways Fade and Do Not Come Back," he writes, "Lift it all up, say, *I am here. And/ I am not here. I am of you. And not of you. Sometimes I love. Sometimes I do not./ Listen: I am going to tell you about it all ...*"

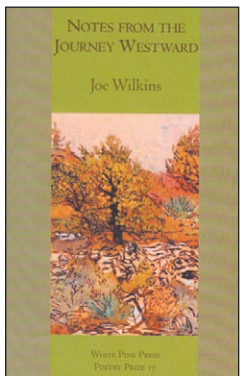
He does, unflinchingly, tell us about it all – the rough, unseemly edges, and the glistening white bones, "how we forget/ or get wrong what God did or didn't say —/ but remember rain, grass, an hour's rest."

The devil puts in an appearance here too, "Listen Mister Lightning Catcher,/ you old stone buzzard/ with your red head of rocks/ & rocks for feathers,/ I'm damn tired of remembering/ you."

Maybe, but memory is insistent in these poems, and each offers a musical reckoning that makes me thankful for the poet's God and his devil.

Wilkins, who was born and raised in eastern Montana, now teaches writing at Waldorf College in northern Iowa. He's written two previous books; a memoir, *The Mountain and the Fathers*, and a collection of poems, *Killing the Murnion Dogs*.

— Kristi Niemeyer



Reckon

By Melissa Mylchreest

Merriam-Frontier Award winner; published by the author in 2012

\$24 hardcover

Poet Melissa Mylchreest's manuscript won the Merriam-Frontier Award because "it springs from the terrain" the award celebrates, write judges Bridget Carson, Ginny Merriam and Lois Welch. "Mylchreest travels the sensory universe and uses it all to take the reader to the place where the poem is happening."

The author, who is completing her MFA in The University of Montana's Creative Writing Program, is no stranger to awards. Two poems in the collection won consecutive Obsidian Prizes for Poetry from *High Desert Journal* – "The Gap-Tooth Girl" (2011) and "For Jolene" (2012) – and her poem, "Across the Street, the Midwife Arrives" received the 2008 Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Prize.

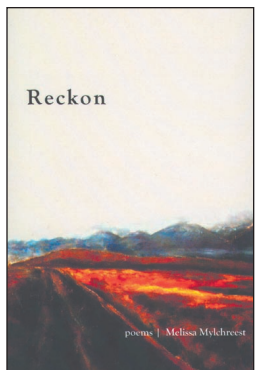
Her voice is both knowing and precise as she describes what most Montanans know by heart: "Cows outside Corvallis, bridges of hipbone/ and skin spanning dust to dust, the late afternoon/ wind pours from the mountains and runs/ around their legs like a sweet-clear river ..."

Or, in "The Gap-Tooth Girl," with the cadence of a cowboy song, "... the man/ in Wranglers holds his arms around her like/ a loose hoop of rope, a snare for her tight/ two-step."

Although many of the poems are distinctly western in content and feel, she also evokes her Connecticut home, where "... I lived/ with salty hair and foghorns through the night." And how the sea still calls her – "not a day untouched by restlessness/ for light, its sharp and shifting moods there at/ that edge, the pull that brought us first to land."

It's a good thing for Montanans that Mylchreest has landed here, and is adding her clear, authentic voice to the state's poetic legacy.

— Kristi Niemeyer



ABOUT BOOKS

The Gray Ghost Murders

By Keith McCafferty
Published 2013 by Viking, New York, NY
\$26.95 hardcover

Sean Stranahan is trying to mind his own business, which includes escorting anglers down the Gallatin Valley's prized trout streams and painting fishing-inspired watercolors. But when two buried bodies are unearthed on Sphinx Mountain, and members of the Madison River Liars and Fly Tiers Club ask him to solve the mystery of two missing – and very valuable – hand-tied flies, he puts his PI skills back to work.

The autopsy reveals that both victims were shot, and each suffered a terminal illness. As Stranahan begins to unravel the connection between the dead bodies, an obscure bullet and a short story by Robert Connell, "The Most Dangerous Game," the occasional sleuth finds himself stalked, instead of stalking.

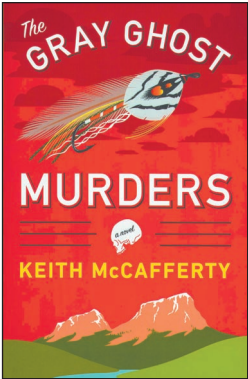
Many of the characters who were introduced in Bozeman author Keith McCafferty's first novel, *The Royal Wulff Murders*, return for the second installment, including the attractive and irascible sheriff, Martha Ettinger; her part-time boyfriend, tracker Harold Little Feather; and Stanahan's pal, the foul-mouthed river rat Sam Meslik. One newcomer is the hero's new squeeze, Martinique, a pre-vet student at Montana State University who pays for her education by working as a sparsely clad barista at Lookers and Lattes.

McCafferty has crafted another fun, fast-paced read that dips into deeper water with its exploration of how a terminal illness can affect a person's psyche. "When a doctor tells you you have a few months and how it's going to end, you walk out of the room a changed man. I lost my nerve, I lost my hope, I lost grip of my soul," says a character, who was on the verge of completing a "terminal arrangement."

"Think big-city CSI teams have it tough?" writes *Kirkus Reviews* of the new novel. "Their examinations of crime scenes are hardly ever interrupted by a grizzly bear like the one that sends Deputy Harold Little Feather to the hospital ... irresistible."

McCafferty, who lives in Bozeman, is the Survival and Outdoor Skills Editor of *Field and Stream* – a vocation that clearly informs his fiction.

– Kristi Niemeyer



Isabella's Odyssey

Written and Illustrated by Sue Spinelli
Published 2012 by Peacock Publishing, Manhattan, MT
\$5.95 softcover

The feline heroine in Sue Spinelli's book for children is a sassy Maine Coon cat who gradually adopts the family of a veterinarian who has moved into her neighborhood to open an animal hospital. Wary at first, the homeless Isabella eventually becomes a loving member of the family and a trusted part of the hospital staff.

The story is narrated by Isabella, who "sees all and tells all from her cattitude point of view," while introducing young readers to the many critters who visit the hospital for treatment.

The cat's spunky nature gets her, and her accomplices, into the occasional scrape. Along the way, young readers gain insights into animal behavior and care, and learn what veterinarians do and why, through the experiences and observations of this precocious feline.

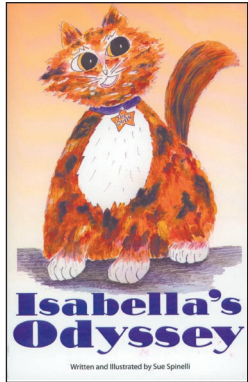
Spinelli incorporates incidents of real-life drama in her story, based on her 25 years of experience working alongside her husband at a veterinary hospital in Belgrade. She highlights her tale with original illustrations.

The result is a pleasant, engaging read, designed to entertain and educate young pet owners, or anyone who likes animal stories.

Spinelli holds university degrees in medical technology and microbiology; one of her short stories placed fourth in the National Writer's Association contest.

Isabella's character is based on the author's cat, also a Maine Coon.

– Judy Shafter



Fish Do What in the Water? *The*

Secret Lives of Marine Animals
Written by Caroline Patterson and illustrated by Robert Rath, with photography by Tom Stack and Associates
Published 2012 by Farcountry Press, Helena, MT
\$14.95 softcover

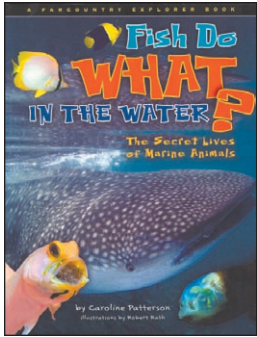
This colorful and entertaining book for young readers offers a fine introduction into the secret lives of a vast variety of sea-dwelling creatures. Its extraordinary photographs, bold illustrations and concise text describe fish, their habits and habitats. Patterson also includes information about mammals that live in the sea, like the blue whale and the familiar dolphin.

The book answers the kinds of questions kids (and curious adults) might ask, including: Why do fish have scales? What is the function of gills? Do fish have tongues? Mysteries such as fish mating, egg laying, child rearing, feeding, social behavior and more are revealed in accessible, easy-to-read language.

Readers will get an introduction to fish with migrating eyes, four-eyes and two eyes on one side of their heads. The book is a wonderful reference to have on the shelf, and will likely spark the interest of many a future marine scientist.

Patterson lives in Missoula with her family. In addition to penning books for children, she has published fiction in numerous literary anthologies and teaches poetry in schools. Rath is a Bozeman illustrator, whose previous collaborations with Patterson include *Who Pooped in the Zoo?*

– Judy Shafter



More Montana Moments

By Ellen Baumler
Published 2012 by Montana Historical Society Press, Helena, MT
\$14.95 softcover

In this follow-up to 2010's *Montana Moments: History on the Go*, historian Ellen Baumler serves readers another helping of historical facts, interesting stories, humorous anecdotes and bizarre characters to demonstrate that history is more than just dull lists of dates and place names.

More Montana Moments is an accumulation of scripts from her popular radio show, "History on the Go" broadcast by Cherry Creek Radio in Helena. The material comes from many sources, including Baumler's research for the Montana Historical Society's National Register sign program. Part of her job is to write the wording on the signs that are posted in front of historic homes all over the state.

Chapters include information about people, places, buildings, children and animals. Each entry, she notes, takes about two minutes to read.

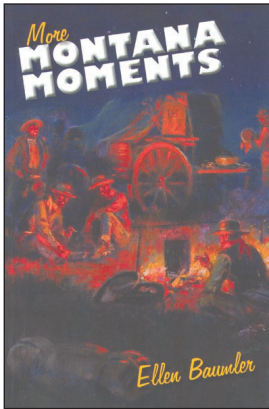
Some of the tales will be familiar, and others are a pleasant surprise that will likely leave readers wanting to know more. The money and personalities behind the building of many of the state's famous mansions (most now are museums), and the somber details of Charlie Russell's 1926 funeral are among the tantalizing tidbits.

Did you know that at least nine naval ships have been christened with names related to the Treasure State? How about the fact that Montana has 112 hillside letters composed of whitewashed rock, more than any other state, and it was Missoula's "M" that initiated the trend?

The book offers an entertaining exploration of Montana history, with no time to get lost or bored in two-minute doses!

Baumler is the interpretive historian for the Montana Historical Society. Previous works include *Spirit Tailings: Ghost Tales from Virginia City, Butte, and Helena*; *Beyond Spirit Tailings: Montana's Mysteries, Ghosts and Haunted Places*; and *Girl from the Gulches: The Story of Mary Ronan*.

– Judy Shafter



From Football to Fig Newtons:

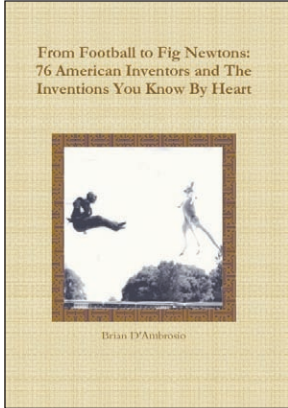
76 American Inventors and The Inventions You Know By Heart
By Brian D'Ambrosio
Published 2013 by Jabberwocky Press, an imprint of Schiff Books, Pittsburgh, PA
\$15.99 softcover

Missoula author Brian D'Ambrosio is on a mission to get forgotten American inventors recognized. Who invented football, bluegrass music, Mr. Potato Head, the Kentucky Derby, Sesame Street and the telephone? If you said Walter Camp, Bill Monroe, George Lerner, Meriwether Lewis Clark Jr., Joan Ganz Cooney, and Antonio Meucci, respectively, then no need to read *From Football to Fig Newtons: 76 American Inventors and The Inventions You Know by Heart*.

Otherwise, you can track down the answers and stories, along with 70 others, in D'Ambrosio's latest book. American ingenuity reveals itself in the simplest and most forgotten places. From familiar brand names such as Wheaties (George Cormack) to the most mundane stop at the traffic light (Garrett Augustus Morgan Sr.), everyday experiences provide abundant opportunities to respect and recall the intellect of the men and women who helped shape the culture and landscape of our environment.

Every trip to the grocery store to buy a box of Band-Aids® (Earle Dickson) offers a chance to ask where and how a certain product came about. With every click of the computer mouse (Douglas Engelbart), our curiosity should deepen.

D'Ambrosio, who also wrote *Menacing Face Worth Millions: A Life of Charles Bronson*, has crafted an instructive read about those who created the spaces, items and comforts we take for granted.



Who's Faster? *Animals on the Move*

Written by Eileen R. Meyer; illustrated by Constance R. Bergum
Published 2012 by Mountain Press Publishing Company, Missoula, MT
\$12 hardcover

You can almost feel the wind brush the grass as the fleet-footed cheetah sprints across the pages in *Who's Faster?* At 70 miles per hour, the sleek cat almost wins the race. But instead, the peregrine falcon stoops in for the victory at over 200 mph.

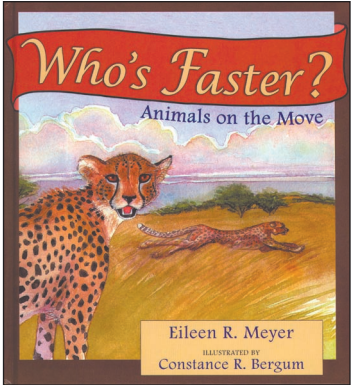
Award-winning Helena illustrator Constance Bergum created the vibrant, intricate watercolor paintings that bring Eileen Meyer's text to life. Who knew that pronghorn antelopes are even faster than the famed Thomson's gazelle (by 11 mph), or that a sailfish is the ocean's speed demon, able to "slice through turquoise waters" at 68 mph?

Learn more about the 14 creatures that crawl, slither, lumber and dash across these pages in an appendix, which also discusses how to measure and compare speed, and lists handy online resources for young animal lovers.

Bergum has been a designer and illustrator of children's books for more than 25 years, and received the Washington Writers Award and the Bock Book Award for her efforts. This is her 14th book for children.

Poems by Illinois author Meyer have appeared in several children's magazines and are part of the new anthology, *And the Crowd Goes Wild: A Global Gathering of Sports Poems*.

– Kristi Niemeyer



11

Send us book ideas

Two Helena publishing companies welcome book ideas.

Farcountry Press invites writers, photographers and illustrators to submit their book ideas for consideration.

Farcountry publishes award-winning books on regional popular history, natural history and national parks for a general audience and for children. The company also publishes color photography books on regions, states, cities and national parks, but generally does not publish poetry or fiction.

Please send book proposals to: Acquisitions, PO Box 5630, Helena, MT 59604. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or your materials will not be returned, and do not send original art or photographs. For more information, visit www.farcountrypress.com.

Riverbend Publishing also welcomes book proposals about Montana and the West. The company publishes award-winning books on regional history, natural history, photography and Glacier and Yellowstone national parks, plus cookbooks and fiction.

Send proposals to Editor, Riverbend Publishing, PO Box 5833, Helena, MT 59604. Visit www.riverbendpublishing.com for more information about the company.



12

Power of art: Can creative activities help us stay young?

The world's population is aging. By 2030, one in eight people will be 65 or older and they can expect to live much longer.

But chronic disease will mean those last years may be spent coping with sickness and disability. Health costs are expected to soar. Alzheimer's alone will likely afflict 13.2 million Americans by the middle of the century. Scientists around the world are trying to find new and cheaper ways to help people stay well while growing old – and they're studying the therapeutic effects of art. In the fifth installment of the Power of Art series, Jane O'Brien explores the power of art and aging (March 18, 2013).

Read more at www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-21806196.

Auction Action

MAM, YAM and Russell museums report robust sales

The Treasure State was awash in art auctions this spring, and all posted more robust sales than last year. The largest was the C.M. Russell Museum's benefit, a three-day event that's the centerpiece of Western Art Week in Great Falls. The Missoula Art Museum opened the season in early February with its 41st annual benefit, and the Yellowstone Art Museum in Billings hosted its 45th annual "Sapphire" affair in early March.



The Russell: R. Tom Gilleon's "Hair Apparent" sold for \$225,000.

Tom Gilleon had hoped to sell his painting, "Hair Apparent," for \$25,000; instead, the gavel went down at nine times that amount at \$225,000. "I had absolutely no idea there was that much interest," Gilleon told reporters.

March in Montana, held at the TownHouse Inn, also did well, with two auctions of art, antiques and collectibles grossing a record \$2.18 million – well over last year's yield of \$1.8 million.

Another event, the Western Masters Off the Wall live auction, grossed \$300,000, also bettering last year's total.

YAM: "Great energy throughout the evening"

The Yellowstone Art Museum in Billings grossed more than \$320,000 in its 45th Annual Art Auction, a glittering "sapphire" anniversary celebration, and was projected to net over \$133,000 in support of the coming year's exhibitions and programs. Museum director Robyn Peterson says 166 works sold, and 151 artists participated in the March 2 gala, which attracted 408 attendees.

"There was great energy throughout the evening," she reports. Although the auction was not a record breaker, total art sales were 25 percent better than last year, and the gross was about 23 percent higher than 2012.

Sandra Dal Poggetto's painting, "American Fork #3," was the highest selling artwork, bringing \$5,600 in the live auction.

The Russell Auction: "A smashing success"

Great Falls was home to a cornucopia of art shows and sales March 14-17 during what's known as Western Art Week.

The largest of them all is "The



MAM: Kevin Red Star's "Thunderstorm" fetched \$7,000. (Photo by Slikati)

MAM: A celebration of contemporary artists

This year's 41st Benefit Art Auction, themed "Artists Color Our World," drew 425 people to the University Center Ballroom on Feb. 2.

The event's longtime auctioneer, Jerry Toner, told the *Missoulian* that bidders spanned a wide age range. "Young artists drew young patrons," he said.

Seventy-four pieces of art were sold during the live auction and the highest bid was \$7,000, paid for Kevin Red Star's "Thunderstorm." A luxury vacation package, donated by MAM patrons Pat and Jeff Aresty, also brought \$7,000.

Another 36 items were sold by silent auction. The "Buy it now!" option, which closed bidding at double the value, was employed by enthusiastic buyers on nearly half of the silent auction items.

Overall, 40 percent of the artworks sold, via live and silent bidding, went well over retail value. The "Fund-A-Dream" request for cash donations raised an additional \$18,000 to upgrade the museum's technology and computer systems. A pass-the-hat effort raised \$920 for the Hellgate High School Art Club's spring art excursion; club members served as art handlers for the auction.

All told, the auction raised more than \$110,000 for the museum. "It was a fantastic success and the number is a bump up from what we have gotten in past years," MAM Director Laura Millin told the *Missoulian*.

"Best of all," she added, "contemporary artists were celebrated and their art highly valued."

Russell," which benefits the C.M. Russell Museum. This year's trio of events, including a silent auction, quick finish and live auction, grossed about \$3.6 million, with the majority of that – about \$3.1 million – coming from Saturday's live auction at the Heritage Inn.

Joe Masterson, chairman of the museum's board, lauded it as a "smashing success." Last year's gross sales at the three events were about \$3.5 million.

Two works by Charles M. Russell brought top dollar, with the watercolor "High, Wide and Handsome" selling for \$550,000, and a letter by the artist going for \$300,000. Artist R.



YAM: A blue glow suffused the sapphire-themed event.

PERCENT-FOR-ART PROGRAMS

Call for Artists

The Percent-for-Art Program recently opened two Requests for Qualifications (RFQ). One seeks a sculpture for an exterior site at the MSU-Animal BioSciences Building at Montana State University Bozeman (deadline is May 15). And the second seeks interior and exterior artworks for MSU Gaines Hall, also in Bozeman (deadline is July 17).

Quick Facts: Animal BioSciences Building

Who: U.S. residents
What: Request for artistic qualifications: Offer a resume and portfolio
When: Applications are open through May 15, 2013
Where: Exterior sculpture for permanent installation at a northwest site of the Animal Biosciences Building on the Montana State University Campus in Bozeman. Selection committee will consider a new commission or a sculpture ready to install and/or modify for the site.
How: Online application process via slideroom.com
How much: Art budget is \$30,500
Semi-finalist awards: \$500 for up to three artists
Submission deadline: 5 p.m. (MDT), Wednesday, May 15, 2013
For more information: art.mt.gov/artists/artists_percent.asp; to begin the artist application process log in to mt.slideroom.com.

Quick Facts: MSU Gaines Hall

Who: U.S. residents
What: Request for artistic qualifications: Offer a resume and portfolio



MSU Animal BioSciences Building (above) and Gaines Hall (right)



When: Applications open April 17-July 17, 2013
Where: Artwork(s) for single or multiple sites, both interior and exterior
How: Online application process via slideroom.com
How much: Art budget is \$76,400
Semi-finalist awards: \$1,200 for up to three artists
Submission deadline: 5 p.m. (MDT) Wednesday, July 17
For more information: art.mt.gov/artists/artists_percent.asp; to begin the artist application process log in to mt.slideroom.com.

Upcoming Percent-for-Art Program projects:

• The University of Montana: Chemistry Building and Law Building

For guidelines, visit art.mt.gov/artists/artists_percent.asp. Contact Kim Baraby Hurtle, Percent-for-Art director, for more information at khurtle@mt.gov or 406-444-6639.

MONTANA ON STAGE

“Rubilation”: Celebrating a milestone in Montana dance

Miss Linda’s School of Dance celebrates 40 years with “Rubilation,” a reception, concert and art exhibit, May 18 at the Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts in Great Falls.

Linda Fuller began teaching dance at her home in Cascade in 1973, armed with a degree in secondary education, a background in the arts and a passion for dance.

She taught in Cascade for 11 years, while honing her skills as a dance teacher and businesswomen by attending Montana Dance Arts Association and Dance Educators of America conferences and classes. She eventually moved her studio to the Performing Arts Center in Great Falls, and Miss Linda’s School of Dance landed in its present location at 612 First Ave. S. in 1988. Fuller bought the building in 1996.

Over the past four decades, Fuller has managed to balance her business and her artistry, learning to handle billing, scheduling and advertising, as well as teaching and choreographing performances. Her staff has grown to include seven faculty members, three office personnel and a slew of volunteers.

“It took a while to find a balance between finding the best training and opportunity for students and staying open and making a living,” she told the *Great Falls Tribune*.

And she’s nowhere near the finish line. Although Miss Linda’s School of Dance will remain in its same location, the building was recently christened The Studio Centre, and will become home for all manner of performing arts in downtown Great Falls.

In addition to Miss Linda’s School of Dance, The Studio Centre will house the



Linda Fuller, the owner of Miss Linda’s School of Dance, today ...

newly renamed Young Dancers Company (formerly Performing Troupe), the pre-professional program at Miss Linda’s that’s in its 24th year.

The center will also continue to host the Great Falls Ballet Ensemble, now entering its third year. This ensemble plans to work on some joint performances with the Great Falls Youth Symphony in the coming year. According to Fuller, this collaboration “illustrates the goal of the Centre to bring different

elements of the arts community together.”

The newest ingredient in the Studio Centre’s mix will be Act One Theater Company, a music and theater group designed especially for young people. The company will offer regular classes each week in singing, movement and acting, and will stage a full production each year. Local industry professionals will offer master classes and theater students from the University of Great Falls will share their skills as well.

The Studio Centre “is no longer just a dance studio for children, but a thriving platform for all the arts in Great Falls and a leader in developing collaborative projects and arts-fueled commerce,” says Fuller.



... and Miss Linda in 1982.

“Rubilation”

The celebration the 40th anniversary of Miss Linda’s School of Dance kicks off with a pre-show gala reception and art exhibit, 5:15-6:45 p.m. May 18 in the Mansfield Center’s Gibson Room in Great Falls. Enjoy drinks and hors d’oeuvres and stroll down memory lane with a display of video footage, pictures and memorabilia depicting the 40-year journey of Miss Linda’s from 1973 until today.

A cast of more than 200 local dancers takes the stage at 7 p.m. in the Mansfield Center for the Performing Arts, and showcases the best moves from the past 40 years, from the Hustle and the Electric Slide, to line dancing and break-dancing.

Tickets are \$9-\$25; call 406-455-8514 or order online at ticketing.greatfallsmt.net.

She has a busy year ahead. In addition to “Rubilation” in May, she’ll help produce the Dancing With The Stars competition next fall, the Moscow Ballet’s “Nutcracker” in November, and the Big Band Broadcast Swing into the Season concert in December. Act One will stage a show next February, and then it’s time for Miss Linda’s School of Dance to offer its spring production.

“The Studio Centre is the natural expansion of 40 years in the world of dance,” says Fuller. “It connects all the arts together and creates a home for all Great Falls artists in the heart of downtown.”

Learn more at www.misslindasdance.com.

Stumptown Players: Serendipity births new theatre company

When Tony Hernandez and Jim Mohn met for coffee in Whitefish in the spring of 2010, little did they know that four years later Stumptown Players would be filling theaters in Whitefish and Kalispell. Their conversation serendipitously moved to the fact that the O’Shaughnessy Center in Whitefish was dark for a month in the summer, so they called some theater friends with the plan to fill the void and give themselves another performing opportunity.

About a dozen friends ponied up \$100 each for seed money and Stumptown Players was born. That August, the group hit the theater scene with a crowd-pleasing run of the comedy “Sylvia” by A.R. Gurney. Being new, the group used guerilla advertising to announce their arrival, becoming a presence at farmers’ markets, plastering posters throughout the valley and utilizing social media to inform the community that a new entertainment opportunity had arrived.

Performing for increasing numbers of audiences that first year, Stumptown Players ended the year in the black. They followed the first summer’s success with another comedy, Larry Shue’s “The Nerd” in the summer of 2011. Again, locals and visitors to the Flathead filled the cabaret-style venue.

With another profitable production under their belts, the Players made a leap of faith, expanding their season to offer two plays



The 2012 production of “Looking” featured Alicia Blake, Tony Hernandez, Russ Moes and CrisMarie Campbell.

and adding the KM Theatre in the Historic KM Building in Kalispell as a venue. “Mere Mortals,” a series of one-act plays by David Ives brought theater back to downtown Kalispell after a hiatus of several years.

Audiences clamored for more, so in 2012, the troupe committed to a three-play season. The season kicked off last summer with “Looking” by Norm Foster at the O’Shaughnessy. The Players returned to the KM Theater in the fall with David Lindsey-Abaire’s “Kimberly Akimbo”; and in the cold Montana winter, they lightened things up with “Private Eyes,” a play-within-a-play whodunit, by Steve Dietz.

Having built a faithful following,

Stumptown Players recently announced its fourth season of three shows scheduled for Whitefish and Kalispell. The fun begins at the O’Shaughnessy July 18-21 and 25-28 with Carolyn Smith’s “Kitchen Witches,” described as Martha Stewart meets Jerry Springer.

In November, the riveting drama “Spirit Control,” by Beau Willimon, comes to the KM Theatre. John Kolvenbach’s farce “Fabuloso” offers a perfect antidote to the mid-winter blues in February 2014.

As they continue to expand their seasons and venues, Stumptown Players is always welcoming volunteers in all aspects of production. To learn more about this energetic company, e-mail stumptownplayers@gmail.com, call 406-871-6447 or visit stumptownplayers.org.



Stumptown Players debuted in 2010 with a production of “Sylvia,” featuring Jim Mohn, Michele Keener and Alicia Blake.



13

High Plains Book Awards attract 164 nominees

“Women Writing the West” is the theme for the 11th annual High Plains BookFest, Oct. 24-26 in Billings.

In conjunction with the BookFest, the Parnell Billings Library established the High Plains Book Awards in 2006 to recognize regional authors and/or literary works which examine and reflect life on the High Plains.

“For the first time since the library established the High Plains Book Awards, 60 percent of the nominated authors are women,” said Writer’s Voice Director Corby Skinner. “It’s a perfect time to honor women writers with a BookFest theme that reflects their contributions to the western vernacular.”

According to DeeAnn Redman, assistant director of the library, 164 books published in 2012 were nominated for the 2013 competition, and are now being read and evaluated by more than 150 volunteer readers.

The 2013 awards include two new categories, Best Culinary Book and Best Young Adult Book. The other categories are Best Fiction; Best Nonfiction; Best Poetry; Best First Book (fiction, non-fiction or poetry); Best Woman Writer; Best Art and Photography; and Best Short Stories.

For information email corbys@billingsymca.org.



14

Scholarship honors Mary Moore's impact on Great Falls

When the Great Falls Symphony Association created a \$1,000 scholarship for college students studying music education, the obvious person to name it after was Mary Moore, who began her 53rd year with the Great Falls Symphonic Choir on March 23.

"No one has had the musical impact in our community that Mary has," Symphonic Choir director Paul Ritter told the *Great Falls Tribune*.

As the only professional mezzo soprano in the state for many years, she was a sought-after soloist. But it's her teaching and conducting that earned her the most accolades: In 1994, Moore received the Montana Choral Directors Association's Distinguished Achievement Award, and in 1997 she was a recipient of a Governor's Award for the Arts.

In addition to teaching countless voice students and founding and directing the Great Falls Symphonic Choir, she also directed the Great Falls Recital Series and the Congregational and First United Methodist church choirs.

At 83 (still singing and teaching), she remains a "wonderfully supportive" presence Ritter told the *Tribune* – "the calming force in what is often a turbulent arts scene."

– *Great Falls Tribune*,
March 20, 2013

(read the entire story at
www.greatfallstribune.com)

ARTS CALENDAR, MAY/JUNE

Bigfork

May 11-12

"Sleeping Beauty" - Bigfork Center for the Performing Arts, Northwest Ballet Company, 406-755-0760

May 11

Spring Art Walk - 11 a.m.-5 p.m., downtown, 406-837-5335

May 17-18, 24-25, 31, June 1, 12, 14, 18, 20, 24, 29

"The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" - Bigfork Summer Playhouse, 406-837-4886

June 8, 13, 17, 21, 26

Monty Python's "Spamalot" - 8 p.m., Bigfork Center for the Performing Arts, 406-837-4886

June 8-9

Piecemakers Guild Quilt Show - Masonic Temple, 406-837-5888

June 11, 15, 19, 22, 27

"Chicago" - 8 p.m., Bigfork Center for the Performing Arts, 406-837-4886

June 25, 28

"The Sound of Music" - 8 p.m., Bigfork Center for the Performing Arts, 406-837-4886

Billings

May 1

Banff Mountain Film Festival - 7 p.m., Lincoln Center Auditorium, 406-248-4555

May 3

Art Walk - 5-9 p.m., downtown, 406-252-2010

May 3, 31

Jam at the YAM - 5:30-8 p.m., Yellowstone Art Museum, 406-256-6804

May 3-4, 10-12, 17-18

"Last of the Red Hot Lovers" - The Prince Theatre, 406-591-3335

May 3-4

Mayfair - Holiday Inn Grand Convention Center, 406-252-0252

Mother's Day Show - 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Shrine Auditorium, 406-545-9711

May 4

Don Williams - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052

May 4, June 1

Montana Comedy Competition - 8 p.m., Bones Brewing, 406-839-9231

May 5

Magic City Singers - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theatre, 406-256-6052

May 9

Disney's "Beauty and the Beast" - 3 and 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052

"Long Way Home" - noon, Western Heritage Center, 406-256-6809

May 10-12, 16-18, 23-25

"A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline" - Billings Studio Theatre, 406-248-1141

May 10

Bill Cosby - 4:30 and 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052

May 11

2013 B.A.S.H.H. - 5 p.m., Crowne Plaza Hotel, 406-652-0960

"Extraordinary Art from Ordinary Objects" Sale and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony - 3 p.m., Center for the Performing Arts, 406-591-9535

May 12

Shall We Dance - 4-7 p.m., Shrine Auditorium, 406-259-4384

May 14

An Evening with Primus 3D - 8 p.m., Shrine Auditorium, 406-259-4384

May 16

"American Art and Democracy: It All Comes Together in Jazz" - noon, Western Heritage Center, 406-256-6809

May 16-18

Wine and Food Festival - Northern Hotel and MSU Billings Student Union, 406-657-2011

May 17

Gabriel Iglesias - 8 p.m., Shrine Auditorium, 406-259-4384

Heritage Home Tour Kick-off Party - 7 p.m., Moss Mansion, 406-256-5100



Riley Freeman is the Lilac Fairy and Megan Bridwell is the Emerald Fairy in Northwest Ballet Company's "Sleeping Beauty" in Bigfork May 11-12. (Photo by Trevor Baker Photography)

May 18

Heritage Home Tour - Moss Mansion, 406-256-5100

May 24-26, 31, June 1, 7-9

"Next to Normal" - Venture Theatre, 406-591-9535

May 25

"How to Tell a War Story" - 2-3 p.m., Parmly Billings Library, 406-243-6022

Pepper - 8 p.m., Babcock Theater, 406-259-7123

May 26

"Happily Ever Aftering on a Montana Cattle Ranch" - 6-7 p.m., Pictograph Cave State Park, 406-243-6022

May 28

Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zeros - 8 p.m., Babcock Theatre, 866-300-8300

June 1

Ryan Bingham with The Wild Feathers - 8 p.m., Babcock Theater, 406-259-7123

SpringFest - 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Moss Mansion, 406-256-5100

June 4

Lamb of God - 7:30 p.m., Shrine Auditorium, 406-259-4384

June 7-9, 13-16, 20-23

"Is He Dead?" - Billings Studio Theatre, 406-248-1141

June 8

Strawberry Festival - 8 a.m.-5 p.m., downtown, 406-294-5060

June 11

Rhonda Vincent and The Rage - 7:30 p.m., Alberta Bair Theater, 406-256-6052

We Came as Romans - 7 p.m., Shrine Underground, 406-259-4384

June 13

Lecture: Gus Kopriva - 7-8 p.m., Yellowstone Art Museum, 406-256-6804

June 30

Symphony in the Park - 4 p.m., Pioneer Park, 406-252-3610

Bitterroot Selway Wilderness Area

May 30

"How We Miss Them" - Magruder Ranger Station, 406-243-6022

Boulder

June 16

Brother Van's Cowboy Poetry and Old-Time Music Festival - 3-6 p.m., Methodist Church, 406-202-4048

Bozeman

May 3

"Hand-Raised: The Historic Barns of Montana" - 7-8 p.m., Pioneer Museum, 406-243-6022

May 3-4, 10-11, 17-18

"Three Glorious Weeks" - 8 p.m., Verge Theater, 406-587-0737 ext. 1

May 4

Peter Fox Smith, "Romeo et Juliette" - 2 p.m., Bozeman Public Library, 406-587-2889

May 4, 11, 18

Silly Moose Improv - 2 p.m., Verge Theater, 406-587-0737 ext. 1

May 4

Tutu Cool - 7:30 p.m., Ellen Theatre, The Dance Alliance, 406-585-5885

May 6

11th Avenue String Quartet - noon, Bozeman Public Library, 406-582-2426

May 8, 10, 12

"Romeo et Juliette" - Willson Auditorium, Intermountain Opera Bozeman, 406-587-2889

May 10

20th Anniversary Open House - 5-8 p.m., Emerson Center, 406-587-9797

Monforton School Art and Culture Fair - 5-8 p.m., Monforton School, 406-586-1557

May 15

Bozeman Sculpture Park Lecture Series: Danny Krause - 6:30 p.m., Bozeman Public Library, 406-582-2400

May 16

"The Extreme History Project - Leprosy in Montana" - 6-7 p.m., Museum of the Rockies, 406-243-6022

May 17-18

Used Book Sale - 10 a.m., Renne Library, MSU, 406-994-3119

May 31

Ryan Bingham with The Wild Feathers - 8 p.m., Emerson Center, 406-586-1922

June 3

Carrie Krause, Jesse MacDonald, Julia Cory - noon, Bozeman Public Library, 406-582-2426

June 14

Art Walk - 6-8 p.m., Main Street and the Emerson Center, 406-586-4008

June 19

Bozeman Sculpture Park Lecture Series: Steve Connell - 6:30 p.m., Bozeman Public Library, 406-582-2400

June 19-20

"Henry V" - 8 p.m. MSU Grove, Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, 406-994-3901

June 26-29

"The Recruiting Officer" - 8 p.m. MSU Grove, Montana Shakespeare in the Parks, 406-994-3901

June 27

Music on Main - 6:30-8:30 p.m., downtown Main Street, 406-586-4008

Butte

May 3, June 7

Art Walk - 6-9 p.m., Uptown, 406-565-0098

Creston

May 11-12, 18-19

Bibler Home and Gardens Spring Stroll and Brunch - Bibler Gardens, 406-756-3632

Deer Lodge

May 9-12, 16-19

"The Sound of Music" - Cutler Brothers Theater, 406-846-4115

June 14-16, 19-23, 26-27, 30

"The Wizard of Oz" - Cutler Brothers Theater, 406-846-4115

June 15

Territorial Days - 9 a.m., Downtown, 406-846-2094

Dillon

June 8

"Chinese in Montana" - 2-3 p.m., Bannack Sate Park, 406-243-6022

Fort Benton

June 28-30

Fort Benton Summer Celebration - various venues, 406-750-2918

Fort Peck

May 24-26, 31-June 2, June 7-9

"Nonsense II" - Fort Peck Theater, 406-228-9216

June 14-16, 21-23, 28-30

"Footloose" - Fort Peck Theater, 406-228-9216

Georgetown Lake

June 30

St. Timothy's Summer Music Festival: Bel Canto - 4 p.m., St. Timothy's Chapel, 888-407-4071 ext. 1

Glasgow

May 18

Bonnie City Blues and Brews Festival - 4 p.m., Cottonwood Inn, 406-228-2222

Glendive

May 1

International Mezzotint Society Print Exchange - Dawson Community College Gallery 126, 406-377-3396

Great Falls

May 2, 9, 23, 30

Armchair Traveler Series - 7 p.m., Great Falls Public Library, 406-453-0349

May 4, 18

Winter Market - 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Holiday Village Mall, 406-250-0929

May 5

Chinook Winds - 2 p.m., First Congregational/Christ United Methodist Church, 406-453-4102

LCIC 15th Anniversary: "Fifteen Years of Fun and Adventure!" - noon-5 p.m., Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, 406-727-8733

Old Time Fiddlers - 1-5 p.m., Mary's Midway Casino and Restaurant, 406-453-0986

May 7

Chinook Winds - 7 p.m., C.M. Russell Museum, 406-453-4102

May 14

Take Me Home: The Music of John Denver - 7:30 p.m., Mansfield Theater, 406-455-8514

May 16, 18-19

Book Sale - Great Falls Public Library, 406-453-0349

May 16

Candye Kane and Awna Teixeira - 7:30 p.m., Rumors, 406-868-0997



Awna Teixeira of Po' Girl kicks off Rootboy's Summer Music Series in Great Falls, May 16. (Photo by Rebecca Kemp)

ARTS CALENDAR, MAY/JUNE

Great Falls (cont.)

May 18
“Rubilation” - 7 p.m., Mansfield Theater, 406-455-8514

May 19
Gabriel Iglesias - 7:30 p.m., Mansfield Theater, 406-455-8514

May 30
Ryan Bingham with The Wild Feathers - Rumors, 406-868-0997

June 6, 13, 20, 28
Alive@5 - 5-9 p.m., downtown, 406-453-6151

June 6, 13, 20, 27
“The World In Which We Live” Film Series - 7 p.m., Great Falls Public Library, 406-453-0349

June 15
“The Indian Education of Lewis and Clark” - 4-5 p.m., Giant Springs State Park, 406-243-6022

June 28
Chuck Mead and the Grassy Knoll Boys - 7:30 p.m., Rumors, 406-868-0997

June 28-29
Lewis and Clark Festival: “Living with the Land” - Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center, 406-727-8733

June 28
Lecture “Living with the Land” - 7-8 p.m., Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center, 406-243-6022

Hamilton

May 3, June 7
First Friday - 6-8 p.m., downtown, 406-363-2400

May 11
Mother’s Day Tea - 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Daly Mansion, 406-363-6004



The Daly Mansion hosts the annual Mother’s Day Tea May 11.

May 16
“Beowulf” - 6 p.m., Ravalli County Museum, 406-363-3338

May 17-18
“Around the World in 80 Ways” - 7 p.m., Hamilton High School Performing Arts Center, River Street Dance Theater, 406-363-1203

May 17
Baroque Music Night - 6 p.m., Ravalli County Museum, 406-363-3338

May 21
Grantsdale Wax Museum - 6 p.m., Ravalli County Museum, 406-363-3338

June 7-9
Montana Professional Artists Association Show and Sale - Bitterroot River Inn, 406-777-0553

June 14-16, 21-23, 28-30
“Anything Goes” - Hamilton Playhouse, 406-375-9050

June 14-16
Artists Along the Bitterroot Studio Tour - various locations, 406-642-3781

June 15
Bitter Root Day - 9 a.m.-1 p.m., Ravalli County Museum, 406-363-3338

June 27
Dave Stamey - 6 p.m., First Interstate Center, 406-363-3411

“Montana’s Fur Trade” - 6-7 p.m., Ravalli County Museum, 406-243-6022

Hardin

June 19-23
Little Big Horn Days and Custer’s Last Stand Re-enactment - various venues, 406-665-1672

Havre

May 17-18, 23-25, 30, June 1
“The Great American Trailer Park Musical” - 8 p.m., MSU-Northern Theatre, 406-945-0272

Helena

May 1-5
“Legally Blonde” - Grandstreet Theatre, 406-447-1574

May 3
Banff Mountain Film Festival - 7 p.m., Helena Middle School Auditorium, 406-443-5360

May 4
Daniel Bernard Roumain - 7:30 p.m., Myrna Loy Center, 406-443-0287

Military Appreciation Day - noon-6 p.m., Gateway Center, 406-431-7699

May 5
Don Williams - 7:30 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 406-447-8481

May 10
Uncorked! - 6-9 p.m., Myrna Loy Center, 406-443-0287

May 11
Mother’s Day Pots and Plants Sale - 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Archie Bray Foundation, 406-443-3502

May 15, 22, 29, June 5, 12, 19, 26
Alive @ Five - 5-9 p.m., downtown, 406-447-1535

May 15
Jim Curry, “Take Me Home John Denver” - 7:30 p.m., Helena Civic Center, 406-422-4083

May 16-19
Springfest - Lewis and Clark County Fairgrounds, 406-457-8516

May 17
Spring Art Walk - 5-9 p.m., downtown, 406-447-1535

May 18
Artist Talk: Linda Arbuckle - 7:30 p.m., Archie Bray Foundation, 406-443-3502

Jerrold Niemann - 8 p.m., Lewis and Clark County Fairgrounds, 406-457-8516

Lewis and Clark County History Fair - 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Walking Mall, 406-447-8357

Steeped in History High Tea - Old Placer Hotel Lobby, 406-457-2822

May 18-19
Quilter’s Guild Show - Helena Civic Center, 406-447-8481

June 7-9
“Disney’s The Little Mermaid, Jr.” - Grandstreet Theatre, 406-447-1574

June 12
Artist Talk: Matt Kelleher and Shoko Teruyama - 7:30 p.m., Archie Bray Foundation, 406-443-3502

June 13-15, 20-22
“Next Fall” - 7:30 p.m., Grandstreet Theatre, 406-442-4270

June 23-30
Helena Choral Week - Myrna Loy Center and local churches, 406-933-5246

June 26
Resident Artist Talk - 7:30 p.m., Archie Bray Foundation, 406-443-3502

June 28-29
Mount Helena Music Festival and Art Mart - Women’s Park, 406-447-1535

Heron

May 10-11, 17-18
“Laugh Again” by the Heron Players - Community Center, 406-847-2288

Hot Springs

June 7-9
Homesteader Days - downtown, 406-741-2361

Joplin

June 15
Art in the Park and Joplin Car Show - 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Memorial Park, 406-292-3670

Kalispell

May 3, June 7
First Friday - 5-7 p.m., downtown, 406-253-6923

May 3, 10
Spring Chef’s Table - 6 p.m., Flathead Valley Community College Arts and Technology Building, 406-756-3963

May 3-5
“The Pilgrimage” - 7 p.m., Glacier High School Performance Center, 406-260-2513

May 17
Benefit Auction of Miniatures - 6-9 p.m., Hockaday Museum of Art, 406-755-5268

June 28-30
Artists and Craftsmen of the Flathead Summer Show - Courthouse West Lawn, 406-881-4288

Lame Deer

May 17
Spring Fling - 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Allen Rowand Gym, 406-477-8900

Lincoln

June 29
Lincolnstock II - 3-10 p.m., Hooper Park, 406-788-4757

Livingston

May 4
Reading: Mardell Hogan Plainfeather - 2 p.m., Elk River Books, 406-224-5802

May 8-11
Friends of the Library Annual Book Sale - Library, 406-222-0862

May 10
Spring Fiesta and Cabaret - St. Mary’s School, 406-222-3303

June 6
Reading: Doug Peacock - 7 p.m., Elk River Books, 406-224-5802

June 14-16, 21-23, 28-30
“The Sunshine Boys” - Blue Slipper Theatre, 406-222-7720

June 18
An Evening with Terry Tempest Williams - 7 p.m., Shane Lelani Center for the Arts, 406-224-5802

June 27
Reading: William Pitt Root and Pam Uschuk - 7 p.m., Elk River Books, 406-224-5802

June 28
Livingston Art Walk - 5:30-8:30 p.m., downtown, 406-222-0850

June 28-30
“Rent” - Shane Center for the Arts, 406-222-1420

Miles City

May 4
Nick Vigarino’s Meantown Blues - 8 p.m., Range Riders Museum, 406-234-5732

May 18
Western Art Roundup Quick Draw and Auction - 10:30 a.m., Riverside Park, 406-234-0635

Missoula

May 1-5, 8-12
“Footloose” - MCT Center for the Performing Arts, 406-728-PLAY

Deadline for the July/August Arts Calendar is May 25, 2013

TO SUBMIT AN EVENT:

- www.livelytimes.com, click on submit an event
- email: writesus@livelytimes.com
- to send by mail:

Lively Times, 33651 Eagle Pass Trail, Charlo, MT 59824

May 1-4
International Wildlife Film Festival - Roxy Theater, 406-728-9380

May 1-4, 7-11
“The Comedy of Errors” - 7:30 p.m., UM Masquer Theatre, PARTV Center, 406-243-4581

May 2
Pentatonix - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

May 3, June 7
First Friday - 5:30-9 p.m., downtown, 406-532-3240

May 4
Prairie Sisters Party - 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Missoula County Fairgrounds, 406-721-3247

May 4-5
Western Montana Wood Carvers Show - Missoula County Fairgrounds, 406-273-4219

May 8-11
Dance in Concert - 7:30 p.m., Montana Theater, UM PARTV Center, 406-243-4581

May 10
Missoula Community Chorus Spring Concert - 7:30 p.m., St. Anthony’s Church, 406-493-9255

May 13
An Evening with Primus 3D - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

May 17
Wild Things Music Spring Rumpus - 7:30 p.m., MCT Center for the Performing Arts, 406-203-2335

May 18
Gabriel Iglesias - Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

May 24
“Going Viral” - 7 p.m., MCT Center for the Performing Arts, 406-549-5155

May 24-27
Miscon27: The Resistance - Ruby’s Reserve Street Inn and Convention Center, 406-360-8876

May 24
Pepper - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

May 25
Arctic Monkeys - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

May 28
The Tallest Man On Earth - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

May 29
Ryan Bingham with The Wild Feathers - 8 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

June 3
Lamb of God - 7:45 p.m., Wilma Theatre, 406-728-2521

June 5, 12, 19, 26
Out to Lunch - 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Caras Park, 406-543-4238

June 6, 13, 20, 27
Downtown Tonight - 5:30-8:30 p.m., Caras Park, 406-543-4238

June 7
Missoula Men’s Chorus - 7:30 p.m., UM Music Recital Hall, 406-370-9876

June 14-15, 17
Under the Big Sky Fine Arts and Crafts Festival - Hilton Garden Inn, 406-207-6502

June 21
The Last Best Solstice Celebration (Art on the River) - 6-11 p.m., Caras Park, 406-541-0860

June 22
Garden City Localfest V - 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Caras Park, 406-721-3000

“Haunted Montana: Where the Ghosts Are!” - 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Garnet Ghost Town, 406-243-6022

June 30
Barenaked Ladies, Ben Folds Five and Guster - 7 p.m., Big Sky Brewery, 406-549-2777

Missoula MADE Fair - 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Caras Park, 406-541-7171

Nevada City

May 25-27
Living History Programs: The Gold Discovery - Alder Gulch, Montana Heritage Commission, 406-843-5247

June 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 22-23, 29-30
Living History Weekends - Alder Gulch, Montana Heritage Commission, 406-843-5247

Continued on next page



Ryan Bingham with The Wild Feathers will be performing in Missoula, Great Falls, Bozeman and Billings. (Photo by Anna Axster)



Virginia City celebrates its 150th birthday

The summer of 2013 is filled with fun events celebrating the sesqui-centennial of finding gold in Alder Gulch and the cultural heritage of Virginia City.

On May 26, 1863, around four in the afternoon, a trail-weary party of six men decided to make camp beside a mountain stream whose course they had been following since early morning. There, they unearthed one of the richest gold deposits in North America, and Virginia City became a town in short order.

The booming burg was the site of many “firsts” in Montana’s colorful history: it was the first territorial capital, home of the first newspaper and the first public school, hosted the first meeting of the Montana Historical Society, and was the original site for the Vigilantes of Montana.

This summer’s offerings include a parade on May 25; a reenactment of the discovery of gold May 26; Brothel Days, June 29; an honoring of the Lemhi Shoshone and the native heritage of the area, July 19-21; and Grand Victorian Balls, June 21-23 and Aug. 16-18.

For a complete schedule, visit www.virginiacity.com.



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Mysterious collection of old photos on display at Depot Museum

The Livingston Depot Museum opens May 25 with a new exhibit, "Livingston Found: A Photographic Treasure of Rescued Historic Images."

The display, from the collection of Livingston photographer and guest curator Angela Gill, features a series of large format black and white prints of trains from a collection of original glass-plate negatives rescued by the photographer.

According to Gill, the plates were set to be destroyed, along with a plethora of photographic equipment, when she rescued them. "It's all a mystery as to who the photographer was and who the subjects are, but it's very apparent that these are from Livingston," she says. Some are a century old and show old steam engines and the train yard.

Gill will discuss the exhibit during a reception at 7 p.m. June 20.

Also on display May 25-Sept. 2 are the museum's ongoing exhibit "Rails Across the Rockies: A Century of People and Places," "The Livingston Depot in History and Architecture," and "Film in Montana: Moviemaking under the Big Sky."

For details, call 406-222-2300 or visit livingstondepot.org.

EXHIBITIONS, MAY/JUNE

Anaconda Copper Village Museum and Arts Center: Anaconda Foundry Fabrication Company Patterns and Molds, May 6-July 7; 406-563-2422

Arlee Hangin' Art Gallery: Killdeer Artisans' Spring Exhibit, through June 21; 406-726-3335

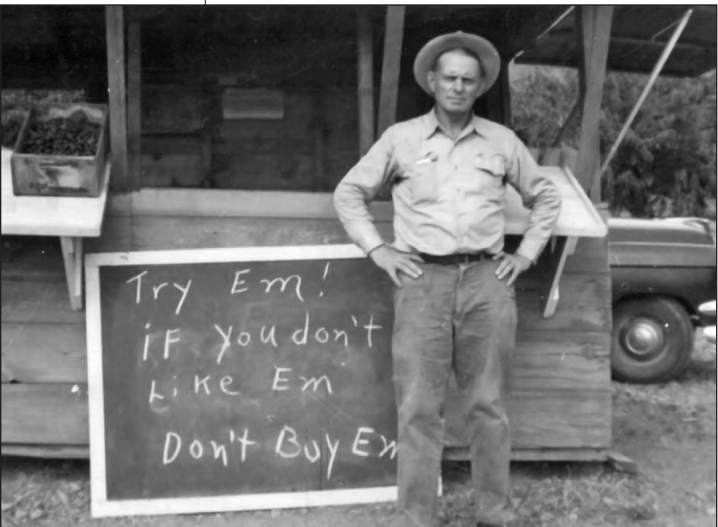
Big Timber Two Rivers Gallery: Fine Art and Photography, May 17-June 19, reception 5-8 p.m. May 17; "Fine Art Variety and Fine Art in Our Schools" through May 15; 406-932-4009

Bigfork Bigfork Museum of Art and History: "The Fruitful Flathead Valley," through May 25; Members Show and Sale, May 31-July 6, reception 5-7 p.m. May 31; 406-837-6927

Billings Sandstone Art Gallery: Jeanine Deiling and Jeanne Broveak, with guest artist Gary Levine, through May 31, reception 5-9 p.m. May 3; Jim Rennie and Sue Hammersmark, with guest artists Ben Steele and Lyndon Palmeroy, month of June, reception 5-9 p.m. June 7; 406-256-5837

Sunrise Art Gallery: Collaborative Quick Draw and Raffle, reception 5-9 p.m. May 3; 406-294-0199

Western Heritage Center: "Native Warriors" and "Parading through History: The Apsaalooke Nation," through June 1; "American Indian Tribal Histories



Photographs on display in "The Fruitful Flathead Valley" exhibit at Bigfork's Museum of Art and History through May 25.

Project," "Echoes of Eastern Montana: Stories from an Open Country," and "J.K. Ralston: History on Canvas," ongoing; 406-256-6809

Yellowstone Art Museum: "Broken Brushes: German Art from the Kaiser to Hitler," through Aug. 4; "Insomnia: Works by Michael Zansky," through Aug. 25; "Elegant Repose," through July 7; and "Boundless Visions," ongoing; 406-256-6804

Yellowstone County Museum: Joyce Lee, ongoing; 406-256-6811

Boulder Boulder Hot Springs Resort: Montana Art Therapy Association Exhibit, through June 30; 406-225-4339

Bozeman Bozeman Public Library Sculpture Park: Montana Invitational Sculpture Exhibition, through August; 406-582-2400

Emerson Center: "The Japanese Woodblock Print" and "An Extension of the Impermanent" and Bob Durden and Susan Thomas, May 10-June 28; "Semester in Italy," through July 5, receptions 5:30-7:30 p.m. May 10 and June 14; 406-587-9797

Museum of the Rockies: "Space: A Journey to Our Future," May 24-Sept. 2; "The Birth of Coffee," through May 5; "Rainforest Adventure," through May 5; 406-994-2652

tart in the Emerson Center: "A Baker's Dozen," through May 8; 406-582-0416

Butte Main Stope Gallery: Ray Campeau, "From Dingle to Dublin," month of May, reception 5-9 p.m. May 3; Toni Seccomb and Kristi Hager, month of June, reception 5-9 p.m. June 7; 406-723-9195

U.S. Bank lobby: Arlo Coles, "A Lifetime of Paintings," through May, reception, 6-9 p.m. May 3; Copper City Artists, "Montana Interpretations," June 7-28, reception 6-9 p.m. June 7; 406-565-0098

Colstrip Schoolhouse History and Art Center: Colstrip High School Scholarship Application Artists, May 6-24; Juried Exhibit Traveling Collection, June 7-28; 406-748-4822

Continued on next page

ARTS CALENDAR, MAY/JUNE

Pablo
May 23
Community Bird Day Festival - 5-8 p.m., Joe McDonald Health and Athletic Center, Salish Kootenai College, 406-675-2700 ext. 7224

Philipsburg
June 27, 29
"How the Other Half Loves" - 7 p.m., Opera House Theatre, 406-859-0013
June 28, 30
Vaudeville Variety Show - Opera House Theatre, 406-859-0013

Polson
May 3-4
Black Satin Revue: "Red" - 7:30 p.m., Elks Club, 406-249-0457
May 3-5
"Guys and Dolls" - John Dowdall Theatre, 406-883-9212
May 5
Cold Hard Cash - 7 p.m., High School Auditorium, 406-249-2738
May 5, June 2
Northwest Montana Accordion Association Jam - 2-5:30 p.m., Elks Club, 406-752-8275
May 11
Broad Comedy - 7:30 p.m., KwaTaqNuk Resort, 406-275-4913

Pray
May 17
"Tasting the World" Fur Ball - 6 p.m., Chico Hot Springs Resort, 406-222-1313

Red Lodge
May 18
Joey+Rory - 8 p.m., Rock Creek Resort, Beartooth Humane Alliance, 406-426-0092
June 1-9
Red Lodge Music Festival - Civic Center, 406-256-5210

Rexford
June 8
West Kootenai Amish Community Auction - 9 a.m., Kootenai Store and Craft, 406-889-3588

Ronan
May 24-27
Montana State Square and Round Dance Festival - Ronan Community Center, 406-676-2592

Seeley Lake
May 25-26
Loon and Fish Festival - Seeley Swan High School and other venues, Alpine Artisans, 406-677-0717

St. Ignatius
May 4-5
Fort Connah Rendezvous - Fort Connah, mile post 39 on Hwy. 93, 406-381-0759

Stevensville
May 3, June 7
First Friday - 6-9 p.m., downtown, 406-777-3773
May 3-5, 9-11, 17-19
"The Wizard of Oz" - Stevensville Playhouse, 406-777-2722
May 18
"Before the Horse: Northern Rockies Lifestyles" - 11 a.m.-noon, Bass Creek Campground, 406-243-6022
June 21-22
Western Heritage Days - downtown, 406-777-3773
June 28-30
Big Sky Renaissance Faire - just off Highway 93, 406-777-3773



Participants are encouraged to wear clothing from the 1860s and gather for the Grand March and Virginia City Victorian Ball on June 22.

Three Forks
June 27-29
Headwaters Country Jam - The Bridge, Jefferson River Canyon, 800-555-8989

June 29
"I Do: A Cultural History of Montana Weddings" - 7-8 p.m., Missouri Headwaters State Park, 406-243-6022

Virginia City
May 24
Poster Signing, Artist's Reception and Commemorative Book Release - 5:30 p.m., Elling House, 406-660-1453
May 24-26, 31, June 1-2
The Brewery Follies - H.S. Gilbert Brewery, 800-829-2969 ext 3
May 25
Sesquicentennial Celebratory Summer Kick-off Parade - 1:30 p.m., 800-829-2969
May 26
Andrew Scruggs, "Bandits" - 5 p.m., 106 E. Wallace East, 406-660-1453
June 1-2, 4-9, 11-16, 18-23, 25-30
"Hound of the Baskervilles" - Opera House, 800-829-2969

June 7-9
Irish Weekend - various venues, 406-933-5759
June 7-30
The Brewery Follies - H.S. Gilbert Brewery, 800-829-2969 ext 3
June 21
Vickey Gordon - 7 p.m., Elling House, 406-843-5454
June 22
Grand Victorian Ball - 7:30 p.m., Community Center Ballroom, 406-660-1453
June 23
Sandy James and the Dillon Junior Fiddlers - 5 p.m., 106 E. Wallace East, 406-660-1453
June 29
An Evening of Cowboy Poetry with Harry Yeoman - 7 p.m., Elling House, 406-843-5454
June 29-30
Brothel Days - Bale of Hay Saloon, 406-843-5700

Whitefish
May 2
Windows on Whitefish Unveiling - 6-9 p.m., Stumptown Art Studio, 406-862-5929
May 4-5
"The Laramie Project: Ten Years Later" - 7:30 p.m., O'Shaughnessy Center, 406-862-5371
May 23-25, 31-June 1, June 7-8
"Becky's New Car" - O'Shaughnessy Center, 406-862-5371

Willow Creek
June 21
Art Walk - 5-9 p.m., downtown, 406-285-4709

Yellow Bay
May 18
Flathead Lake Cherry Blossom Festival - 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Yellow Bay Community Club, 406-982-3064

EXHIBITIONS, MAY/JUNE

Dillon

The Art Scene Gallery: “Objects and Abstractions,” through May 31; 406-925-0511

Glendive

Dawson Community College Gallery 126: International Mezzotint Society Print Exchange, through May 9; Spring Juried Student Art Show, through May 6; 406-377-3396

Great Falls

Amazing Gallery (inside Amazing Toys): Deeling Gregory, ongoing; 406-727-5557

C.M. Russell Museum: “I Beat You to It: Charles Russell at the Mint,” through Sept. 14; 406-727-8787

Gallery 16: “Ushering in Spring and Summer with Fabulous Florals,” reception 5-9 p.m. May 3; 406-453-6103

Great Falls Public Library: Thursday Morning Drawing Group, through June; Overholser Historical Center Homestead Photograph Exhibit, ongoing; 406-453-0349

Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art: Josh DeWeese, “A Point in Time” and “Cells and Orbs: Sketchbook Drawings and Related Works,” through Aug. 24; Jessie Wilber: Blackfoot Indian Tipis, through July 13; Great Falls Public Schools exhibit, through May 16; “The ‘Trunk’ Show,” June 4-Sept. 4, reception 5:30-7:30 p.m. June 11; Valentina LaPier, June 11-Oct. 19, reception 5:30-7:30 p.m. June 11; Lee Steen: “A Montana Original,” “The Divine Image: Concrete Sculptures by Dr. Charles Smith,” and Jean Price, “Three Thousand and Counting,” ongoing; 406-727-8255

Parking Garage at 315 First Ave. South and Bert and Ernie’s: Urban Art Project Summer Exhibit, June 10-Sept. 5, reception 5-7 p.m. June 10; 406-452-9315

Hamilton

Ravalli County Museum: “Harry Potter’s World: Renaissance Science, Magic and Medicine,” through May 26; “Bertie Lord, Pioneering Photographer” and “A Walk Through the Bitter Root,” ongoing; 406-363-3338

Hardin

JailHouse Gallery: “A Weaver’s Story,” May 7-25; “The Montana Show,” June 5-July 27; Hannah Ferger exhibit, ongoing; 406-665-3239

Havre

Artitudes Gallery: Inetia Cantin, “Impressions of Life,” through May; Mary Nault, “Tiger by the Tail,” months of June and July, reception 6-8 p.m. June 14; 406-265-2104

High Line Heritage House Museum: “Hill Country Schools,” ongoing; 406-399-5225

Helena

Archie Bray Foundation: UM and MSU Faculty and Student Exhibition, through May 18; Windgate Fellowship Exhibition, May 30-July 7, reception 6-8 p.m. June 21; Resident Artists’ Exhibition and Bray Benefit Auction and Exhibition, June 13-July 27, reception 6-8 p.m. June 13; 406-443-3502

Holter Museum of Art: “Light and Shadow,” through May 12; “Missouri River Recycled Art Exhibition,” through May 9; 406-442-6400

Lewis and Clark Library: “Banned, Challenged, Censored,” through May 31; 406-447-1690

Montana Historical Society: “Domestic Economy,” May 9-August 31, reception 6:30-8 p.m. May 9; “And the Bride Wore: Montana Weddings, 1900-1960,” through November; “Dora’s Laundry,” through December; 406-444-2694

Upper Missouri Artists Gallery: Artwalk Reception, 5-8 p.m. May 17; Still Lives, month of June, 406-457-8240



“Cree Elder” by John Well-Off-Man is part of Missoula Art Museum’s Contemporary American Indian Art Collection through Aug 2.

Hot Springs

On the Wall Gallery: Juried Art Show, May 15-June 15; 406-741-2059

Kalispell

Health and Wellness Resource Center: James Corwin and Nicholas Oberling Grand Art Exhibition, through May; 406-471-7518

Hockaday Museum of Art: Cheryl Ferrin, “Blackfeet Portraits,” May 9-June 22; Terrance Guardipee, “Honoring the War Horses of the Blackfeet,” May 23-Aug. 17; joint reception, 5-7 p.m. May 23; 406-755-5268

Lewistown

Lewistown Art Center: “Fired by Ideas,” through May 5; Montana Watercolor Society Exhibit, May 10-June 22, reception 5-7 p.m. June 22; Vern Anderson exhibit, June 28-Aug. 9, reception, 5:30-7:30 p.m. June 27; 406-535-8278

Livingston

Danforth Gallery: “The Starving Artist Show,” through May 17; MFA Candidate Student Show, May 24-June 22, reception 5-8 p.m. May 24; “Implement: The Home and Garden Show,” June 28-July 20, reception, 5-8 p.m. June 28; 406-222-6510

Livingston Depot Center: “Livingston Found: A Photographic Treasure of Rescued Historic Images,” May 25-Sept. 2, reception 7 p.m. June 20; “Rails Across the Rockies: A Century of People and Places,” “The Livingston Depot in History and Architecture” and “Film in Montana: Moviemaking Under the Big Sky,” through Sept. 2; 406-222-2300

Martinsdale

Bair Family Museum: Indian Ledger Art, May 4-Aug. 11; Bair family’s Native American Collection, ongoing; 406-572-3314

Miles City

Custer County Art and Heritage Center: “Western Art Roundup,” through June 16, brunch reception 9:30-11:30 a.m. May 19; “By Design: Art and Architecture,” June 23-Aug. 17, reception 1-4 p.m. June 23; “Home of L.A. Huffman Photographs,” ongoing; 406-234-0635

Missoula

4 Ravens Gallery: John Bohman and Scot Herries, “Surface: A Furniture Show,” May 3-June 28, reception 5-8 p.m. May 3; Courtney Blazon, “A Seedy Affair,” May 3-31, reception 5-8 p.m. May 3; 406-317-1543

Families First Children’s Museum: “Concave and Convex Mirrors, Catenary Arch Blocks and Magna-Tiles,” through June 30; 406-721-7690

Historical Museum at Fort Missoula: “Signs of the Times: A Trip Down Memory Lane,” through November; “United We Will Win: World War II Posters That Mobilized a Nation,” ongoing; 406-728-3476

Missoula Art Museum: Jane Waggoner Deschner, “Often, All That Remains,” May 3-Aug. 25, reception 5-8 p.m. May 3; Jay Schmidt, “Warning Shots,” June 7-Sept. 15, reception 5-7 p.m. June 6; Gary Horinek, “The Gathering,” through May 19; “Art4All: Show and Share,” through May 19; “For Advice Call 1-800-COYOTE: Words in MAM’s Contemporary American Indian Art Collection,” through Aug. 2; Hellgate High School Art International Baccalaureate Program, through June 23; “What is a Cone?,” through May 5; Recent Acquisitions Exhibition, through June 23; 406-728-0447

Montana Museum of Art and Culture: “A Hundred Years Later: Julius Seyler Among the Blackfeet” and “Richard Buswell: Close to Home,” May 2-Aug. 3, reception 5-7 p.m. May 2; 406-243-2019

UM Gallery of Visual Arts: BFA Senior Thesis Exhibition, April 30-May 17, reception 5-7 p.m. May 2 and 3-4:30 p.m. May 17; 406-243-2813

Pablo

People’s Center: “Cradle Boards and Baby Carriers,” through May; Traditional Native Games, months of June and July; 406-675-0160

Plains

Clark Fork Valley Hospital: “Art on the Walls” Spring Show, through June 26; 406-544-6654

Polson

Miracle of America Museum: National Nurses Week, May 6-12; 406-883-6804
Sandpiper Gallery: “Spring Fling,” through May 17; “Earth, Wood and Fire,” May 21-June 28, reception 5-7 p.m. May 24; 406-883-5956

Red Lodge

Red Lodge Clay Center: Bi-Annual Juried National, through May 31, reception 5-7 p.m. May 3; Ryan Greenheck, through May; Marilyn Lysohir, June 7-30, reception 5-7 p.m. June 7; Glenda Taylor, June 7-28; reception 5-7 p.m. June 7; 406-446-3993

Roundup

Musselshell Valley Historical Museum: “Clovis to Coal,” through Sept. 25, reception 1-5 p.m. May 18; 406-323-1535

Sidney

MonDak Heritage Center: Don Marvine, through May 4; “I Do: A Cultural History of Montana Weddings,” months of June and July, reception 2 p.m. June 22; 406-433-3500

Virginia City

Elling House: Sheri Jarvis, through June, reception 5:30 p.m. June 21; 406-843-5507

Whitefish

Walking Man Frame Shop and Gallery: “Ceramics Festiva” May 2-31; Judy Cockrell, June 6-30; 406-863-2787

Purple Pomegranate: Edd Kuropat, through May 31, reception 6-9 p.m. May 2; Janina Hobday, June 6-30, reception 6-9 p.m. June 6; 406-862-7227

Stumptown Art Studio: Student Spring Show, through May 31; Jeannie Moe, “Journey in Watercolor,” June 6-July 2, reception 6-9 p.m. June 6; 406-862-5929



“Raku Chicken,” by David Smith in Whitefish, is featured through May in Walking Man Frame Shop and Gallery’s “Ceramics Festiva” exhibit.



FVCC hosts Ceramics Festiva

Flathead Valley Community College in Kalispell hosts Ceramics Festiva, May 22-25. The inaugural event explores alternative firing techniques. According to the website, participants will learn about raku, pit, horse-hair and saggar firing, soda-salt and ash firing, using indigenous materials (including how to use clays for glazes and formulating clay bodies), building and firing kilns, and more.

Dave Smith, ceramics instructor at FVCC, encourages conference attendees to bring pots or sculptures (pre-bisque fired), and “create a huge mess of ceramic goodness.”

In tandem with the conference, the college gallery and Stillwater and Walking Man galleries in Whitefish will host ceramics exhibits in May.

For details, call 406-756-3993 or visit ceramicsfestiva.com.



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Send your submissions for About Visual Arts

With About Visual Arts, *State of the Arts* continues to profile living Montana artists (no students, please), whose work is the focus of a current exhibit (on display during some portion of the two months covered by the current issue of *State of the Arts*).

Submissions must include:

- A digital image of the artist's work, with title of the piece;
 - A brief bio and description of the artist's work (up to 300 words);
 - Dates and title of exhibit; and
 - The gallery or museum name, town and phone number.
- MAC will select submissions that reflect a cross-section of gender, geography, styles and ethnicity, and are from a mix of public and private galleries and museums.

Deadline for submissions for the July/August is June 1. Please send submissions to writeus@livelytimes.com with About Visual Arts in the subject line.

ABOUT VISUAL ARTISTS

Josh DeWeese: "A Point in Time"

Through Aug. 24 at Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art in Great Falls

Artist's website: www.deweeseart.com/Josh/



Pitcher by Josh DeWeese

Josh DeWeese is a ceramic artist and educator who is currently an assistant art professor, teaching ceramics at Montana State University in Bozeman. He and his wife, ceramic artist Rosalie Wynkoop, recently built a home and studio in Bozeman – the town where DeWeese grew up, the son of well-known Montana artists Bob and Gennie DeWeese.

His exhibition at Paris Gibson Square features a range of pottery forms, including covered jars,

platters, baskets, various pouring vessels, and cups.

He describes the show this way: "The jars and platters serve as a platform for the exploration of narrative, with drawings enveloping the forms, emerging in and out of the glazed surface. The larger vessels become paintings in the round, and I am interested in how the image unfolds as you move around the pot."

The baskets and pouring forms are animated, and reference the figure. The cups, he says, "are perhaps the most intimate. I enjoy the potential of the daily kiss, and their future interaction in the hand and the home."

The artist earned an MFA from the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred, and a BFA from the Kansas City Art Institute. He served as resident director of the Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts in Helena from 1992-2006.

DeWeese has exhibited and taught workshops internationally and his work is included in numerous public and private collections.

Ray Campeau, "From Dingle to Dublin"

Through May at Main Stope Gallery in Butte, with a reception during the Art Walk, 5-9 p.m. May 3

Artist's website: www.campeau-artist.com

Butte-born Ray Campeau returns to his hometown in May to exhibit new paintings, created from sketches done during a trip to Ireland last summer.

Campeau was born and raised in Butte, and received his early education from the town's Catholic schools and its "colorful, notorious streets." After a stint in the Navy, he returned to Montana and earned a bachelor's in applied art at Montana State College (now Montana State University in Bozeman), and later a master's degree.

His teaching career was anchored at Bozeman High School, where he taught art for 33 years. "But my moonlighting allowed me to work with students from kindergarten to grad school, teach private classes and workshops and teach art as many as five evenings a week in communities that were 120 miles or less from Bozeman," he writes.

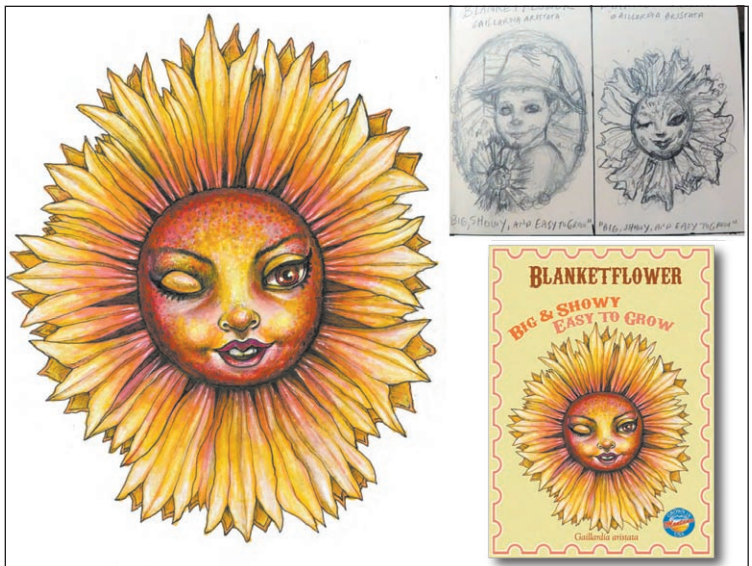
But teaching art wasn't his only vocation. He also moonlighted as a laborer, auto repairman, steel worker, apprentice carpenter, truck driver, cab driver, draughtsman, waiter, bartender, clerk, surveyor, golf-club manager, electronics technician, gallery owner and art director, and two-dimensional painter. "Every job taught me something valuable about the way the world works," he says.

He's also contributed to a number of national arts-centered organizations, and gathered a slew of awards along the way. He was named Montana Art Teacher of the Year in 1982, and the Pacific Region Art Educator of the Year by the National Art Education Association in 1990; and he received the Governor's Award for Service to the Arts in 1987, and the Herald McGrath Award from the Butte-Silver Bow Chamber of Commerce in 2011.

Campeau and his wife, Kay, live in Bozeman, where "I still paint, own and direct galleries, and teach and promote art activities everywhere I can."



"Dingle Houses" by Ray Campeau



Blanketflower mock-up, drawing and seed packet by Courtney Blazon

Courtney Blazon, "A Seedy Affair"

May 3-31 at 4 Ravens Gallery in Missoula, with a reception during the Art Walk, 5-8 p.m. May 3

Artist's website: courtneyblazon.blogspot.com

"A Seedy Affair" highlights the unique collaboration between Courtney Blazon and Native Ideals Seed Farm in Arlee, which commissioned the artist to create drawings for their seed packets. Framed pieces feature the artist's original mock-up sketches, the final original drawing and a completed seed packet.

The Missoula artist and illustrator is inspired by the natural, the real, and the historical, and combines elements from these different references into a cohesive narrative.

"I think that the major theme in all my artwork is what I see as the inner-connectedness of all things, that all stories, real and imagined, are woven from the same fabric and all that fabric needs is some new stitching to make new connections," she wrote in the ArtSeen blog, October 2012.

Blazon's work has been shown at several local galleries, including the Missoula Art Museum, the Dana Gallery, the Brink, and 4 Ravens, as well as in Portland and Seattle. She has also been a featured artist on Google's artistaday.com and the art blog, myloveforyouisastampedeofhorses.com, and was featured in the online arts journal hoboeye.com, at juxtapoz.com and on the blog artseen.com.

Blazon earned a BFA in illustration from Parsons School of Design, and has created illustrations for Montana Lyric Opera, Shakespeare and Co., Missoula Oblongata, *CutBank Literary Journal*, the *Missoula Independent*, *Montana Headwall Magazine*, Native Ideals Seed Company, the Missoula MADE Fair, and digthischick.com. In 2011 she was honored with a Montana Arts Council Artist's Innovation Award.

"I find inspiration in almost anything," she says.

Featured Artist: Cliff Potts

Through May at Sandstone Gallery in Billings with a reception during the Art Walk, 5-9 p.m. May 4

Artist's website: www.cliffpotts.com

Cliff Potts, who grew up near the small town of Custer, contracted polio at 15 and nearly died. He lost the use of his arms and legs and spent many months in an iron lung.

That experience also left him with a profound spirituality, beginning with the realization that every breath he took was a gift from God.

He later attended Eastern Montana College in Billings, earning a bachelor's degree in art, followed by a master's in counseling in 1970. That same year, he married and began a family, which grew to include four children.

Using a tongue-controlled electric "golden arm" to manipulate his left arm, Potts creates original artwork in pen and ink, watercolors and oils, as well as limited edition prints and cards. He says the daily painting exercises help him reach "another level of possibility in both subtly of

color and design."

Many of his drawings and paintings reflect his rural Montana heritage. "I enjoy painting everyday scenes that illustrate the lifestyle and genuine spirit out here. From the hills of Havre country to the plains of Castle Buttes, there are stories to be told on canvas or etched by pen all across this great state."

Hope is also a predominant thread in the artist's life, which he frequently expresses through the use of vibrant color. No matter what the medium or subject, his artistic vision brings him back, time and again, to the lessons he learned as a boy: awe for the majesty of creation, a belief in the power of God, and the knowledge that survival takes teamwork.

Indeed, not only his artwork, but his entire life has been shaped around those lessons.

The May exhibit at Sandstone also includes jewelry by Jeannine Deiling and paintings by Jeanne Broveak.

Compiled by Kristi Niemeyer



"Branding" by Cliff Potts

PUBLIC VALUE PARTNERSHIPS

“The Three Rs” at work in Montana

Public Value Partnership grants between Montana nonprofit arts organizations and the Montana Arts Council champion the fact that the arts are of benefit to all the citizens of Montana and are worthy of state and federal investment.

Public Value Partnerships utilize three tools we call “The Three Rs” to expand the public value of the work being done by Montana’s non-profit arts organizations:

- Building relationships;
- Creating greater relevance and meaning; and
- Establishing return on investment.

MAC believes that using “The Three Rs” strengthens participation, understanding and support from audiences, donors and funders. We’d like to share some of the best examples of these stories with you from 2012:

Building Relationships

Alpine Theatre Project, Inc., Whitefish:

Last year, Alpine Theatre Project had significant success in using social media networks like Facebook, Twitter, Google+, and YouTube to engage its constituents on a more immediate level. ATP decided to follow this success by increasing its engagement in social media. In turn, ATP has become lauded in Montana by both the artistic and tourism-based industries for its use of social media.

Begun in 2011, ATP now encourages patrons to photograph productions before they begin and post the photos on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc. All that we ask is that they credit the proper designers whose works are being showcased.

ATP is also using social networks to facilitate communication among artists. For example, for its recent production of “Little Shop of Horrors,” director Betsi Morrison and her design team used the social network, Pinterest, as a way of amassing images to serve as inspiration for the costume and scenic designs for the production.

Facebook continues to be the single best way ATP now communicates with the public it serves. Patrons routinely post comments and messages about our productions. After a recent production of our educational outreach program with 111 local students, a parent of one of the students wrote on ATP’s Facebook page:

“Just wanted to say thank you to all of AKTP for your ‘Little Mermaid’ production! Watching my little girl unfold over five weeks and then seeing this beyond expectation performance has got to make you guys feel good! Norah loved the experience and can’t wait to do it again! As for Luke and Betsi, Whitefish is so happy to have you! You two have brought class to our community and you continue to impress me show after show! Bravo AKTP!”

ATP has also increased its use of video to offer more in-depth explanations of its productions and show behind-the-scenes footage of what it takes to create a show. All these videos are distributed via social media networks to increase viewing and engagement.

In an effort to reach out to young students this summer, ATP expanded its backstage tour

program. Traditionally offered to donors and sponsors, ATP held a special “Family Matinee” of a performance of “Little Shop of Horrors” where it offered a backstage tour to the young children in the audience after the performance. Children were brought backstage by ATP Executive Director Luke Walrath, and shown all of the different props and scenic pieces used in the performance. This was done in an effort to better involve children in the experience of attending theatre.

Creating Relevance

Intermountain Opera Bozeman: ... In addition to utilizing the opera itself to break barriers and change attitudes, IOB held its first Opera Run. This event attracted an entirely

different demographic and introduced them to opera in an exciting, fun way.

The event consisted of a one-mile run for kids, a 5K for runners and walkers and a 10-mile route for serious runners. There were over 150 registered participants – a very respectable number for a first-time run.

Innovative opera-focused additions were added to help promote the opera. The races were started with a large gong instead of the typical gunshot, and singers were posted at every water station. They not only serenaded the runners, but

created quite a buzz with people passing by.

At the awards ceremony after all the races were finished, one of the professional opera singers who was in town for “Hansel and Gretel” sang an aria from the opera to give people a true taste of what they would hear if they attended.

Return on Investment

Great Falls Symphony: The Great Falls Symphony is very much a “player” in the local and state business economy. This past spring over 70 musicians traveled to Great Falls, stayed in Great Falls hotels and ate in local restaurants as part a nationwide search and audition process to fill seven full-time artistic positions within our organization.

Ultimately, the seven new employees joined with current artistic and administrative staff to make the 16 members of our “family.” In this way, through job creation and salaries alone, the Great Falls Symphony returns over \$350,000 to the local and state economy annually, and over \$50,000 in additional state and



A 70-year-old runner completes Intermountain Opera Bozeman's inaugural Opera Run in 2012.

federal taxes and benefits.

In addition, the GFSA returns another \$25,000 to the community through per-service honorariums for 50 local musicians. Add to this the organization’s own purchase of local goods and services and the impact of the people from rural areas who contribute to local stores, restaurants and hotels when they spend a Saturday night at the symphony during the season.

If only one-half of the GFSA concert audiences spend an average of \$10 for childcare, restaurants, parking, after-concert entertainment, etc., this reflects an additional \$50,000 deposited into the local economy annually. Estimating a conservative multiplier effect of .4, as these dollars are turned over in the economy, we begin to see what even a relatively small regional arts organization can contribute!

The Great Falls Symphony takes its role as a contributor to the local business economy and the capacity we have to create a rich arts environment very seriously. We are aware that it is often a significant factor for people making a decision to live and work in Great Falls.

We work closely with the Great Falls Economic Development Authority, the Chamber of Commerce, the City of Great Falls, the Military Affairs Committee and employers such as Benefis Health Systems, the public school system, Davidson Companies and others who are active recruiters to the region. When appropriate, representatives from these entities are invited to sit on our board.

We are told that during the employee recruitment process, the livability of our community, including schools and a rich arts and cultural environment, factor high on the list of top qualities sought as potential employees evaluate their employment options.

As we look at these qualities, the message becomes clear ... The contributions to a vibrant arts community made by organizations such as the Great Falls Symphony not only keep residents and their discretionary spending close to home, but bring high quality workers to the community and attracts visitors who spend money and help local businesses thrive.



The Cascade Quartet of the Great Falls Symphony: Contributing to the local business economy.



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Fundraising realities every board member must face

For board members, the essence of big-gifts fundraising can be distilled into 43 “realities.” David Lansdowne explores each of them in the second edition of his book, *Fundraising Realities Every Board Member Must Face: A One-Hour Crash Course on Raising Major Gifts for Nonprofit Organizations*.

In a recent edition of GuideStar, he singles out just three:

- Regardless of income or assets, most of us find it hard to thin out our wallets;
- A few contribute the most;
- The secret of success: Ask for it.

The author has spent his professional life in the nonprofit sector, serving in a wide variety of development and administrative positions for educational, cultural, and health organizations throughout the United States.

Read the full story at www.guidestar.org.



SBA offers primer for Native-owned businesses

The U.S. Small Business Administration launched an online tool that helps Native American entrepreneurs prepare for business ownership. “The Native American Small Business Primer: Strategies for Success” is a free online business course developed for Native American entrepreneurs that gives an overview of basic business principles and of the SBA’s programs and services that help business owners get started.

The course is a business development tool for the entrepreneur’s toolbox that emphasizes business planning and market research as essential steps to take before going into business. The course gives useful first steps to take, and includes a section on how to estimate business start-up costs that help assess the financial needs of starting a business.

The course is available from the SBA’s Online Small Business Training web page under Online Courses for Starting Your Business at www.sba.gov/content/online-courses-starting-your-business.

NATIVE NEWS

In Print: New book explores the history of the Little Shell Tribe

“The Whole Country was ... ‘One Robe’: The Little Shell Tribe’s America

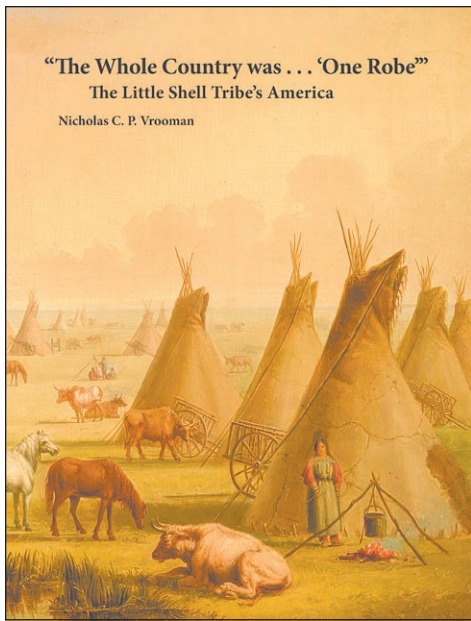
By Nicholas C. P. Vrooman
Co-published 2013 by the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana and Drumlummon Institute, Helena, MT
\$39.95 softcover

After a lifetime of engagement with the history of a burgeoning and distinctive aboriginal amalgam culture on the Northern Plains, historian and folklorist Nicholas Vrooman offers an extraordinary account of an extraordinary people – the Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa Indians of Montana.

In 29 meticulously researched chapters, Vrooman provides the full context for the Little Shell’s present-day circumstance in Montana, from their origins in the Upper Midwest, to their role as successful traders, buffalo hunters, guides and scouts in North Dakota and Montana (on both sides of the U.S.-Canada border), to their struggle for survival on the margins of Montana towns through the 1950s.

Vrooman writes, “Because of intense historical prejudice, the members of the Little Shell Tribe of Montana live today in a very distinctive and critical conundrum within the greater society. ... The grand narrative of the Little Shell is ... one of immense courage, fortitude, resilience, perseverance, hope, and love. It is a story that comprises the deeper, truer telling of our continent’s history.”

With its remarkable breadth of scholarship, its wealth of images of Chippewa, Cree, Assiniboiné and Métis life, and its passionate accounting of a proud people, “The Whole Country was ... ‘One Robe’” is destined to take its place alongside



such classics on Métis culture as Joseph Kinsey Howard’s *Strange Empire: Louis Riel and the Métis People* and Canadian scholar Lawrence Barkwell’s essential anthology, *Metis Legacy: A Metis Historiography and Annotated Bibliography*.

Noted Canadian Métis author Maria Campbell notes that the book “is told from a gentle place by a good storyteller, knowledgeable historian, and friend

of the people. I urge you to read it, reflect on it, and change the shameful way our mutual countries and governments treat Indigenous peoples, and in the end rob all our children of a rich inheritance.”

Exhibit of Indian ledger art opens at the Bair Museum

This summer, the Bair Museum in Martinsdale will host an exhibition of selected work from the Charles H. Barstow Collection of Crow and Gros Ventre Indian Ledger Art. The 20 drawings from the Montana State University-Billings collection offers an intriguing look at the tribal history and traditions of the last decade of the 19th century. The exhibition is open weekends in May, and daily from June 1-Aug. 11.

The American Indian tribes of the Northern Plains were confined to reservations in the last part of the nineteenth century. Many turned to creating pictorial art as a means to preserve and pass on their history and heritage. They used manufactured materials on hand, including pencils and ink, and paper torn from ledger books, school notebooks and office forms.

Major Charles Barstow, who was chief clerk for the Bureau of Indian Affairs at Crow Agency from 1879 to 1897, provided Indian warriors materials and encouraged them to paint and draw. The ledger drawings mimic the function of traditional buffalo-hide painting, and provide narratives of social status and youthful adventures, from capturing horses and “counting coups,” to dancing and courtship.

Barstow’s collection of ledger drawings was rediscovered in 1930 in Roundup, MT, and came to MSU through the efforts of



War Record Drawing from the Charles H. Barstow Collection.

Ruthann Wilbur Hines.

“Surviving from a period of tremendous change, the ledger drawings of the Barstow Collection are characterized by great immediacy, intimacy and even urgency of expression.

They are tinged with romance and nostalgia, but also suffused with fierce pride and a spirit of resilience,” writes Montana artist and curator Gordon McConnell.

The Bair Art Museum also provides a unique close-up look at the Bair family’s Native American collection and a

user-friendly touch screen allows everyone to explore the collection’s objects.

For more information, call 406-572-3314 or visit www.bairfamilymuseum.org.



The Bair sisters with Crow Indians, from the Bair Museum’s Native American collection.

Amendments proposed to Indian Arts and Crafts Act

By Brandon Ecoffey
Reprinted with permission from the *Native Sun News*

An amendment proposed to the Native American Arts and Craft act by Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV), if passed, would potentially remove protections from Native American artisans across the country and allow for non-tribal members to label work they create as “Native American produced.”

The Indian Arts and Craft Act, which was originally established in 1990, prohibits the marketing of American Indian and Alaskan Native arts and crafts as authentic unless they are produced by a federally or state-recognized tribal member.

The changes proposed by Rep. Rahall

would insert into the law language that would allow for members of nonprofit Indian organizations and individuals who are not enrolled members of a recognized tribe to claim authenticity.

The amendment would extend the act to cover “any individual who is a direct lineal descendant of a person listed on the base roll of an Indian tribe, whether or not such individual qualifies for membership in the Indian tribe,” and “any individual who is a member of an Indian organization.”

The law provides vague definition of what an Indian organization is and includes language stating the organization does not need to be recognized by any tribal nation.

“The IACA is already difficult to enforce and does little to protect or support Native American

artists and small arts businesses. These new changes would render it completely useless,” said Dr. Jessica Metcalfe, founder of the Native American Fashion blog Beyond Buckskin.

“It sounds like someone in D.C. is lobbying for this change because companies realize that right now there’s a lot of money to be made off of selling our ethnicity. But our ethnicity isn’t for sale,” she added.

The amendment has been referred to the House committee on Native American and Alaska Native Affairs.

Brandon Ecoffey is a staff writer at *Native Sun News*, published weekly in Rapid City, SD. Learn more at www.nweekly.com.

NATIVE NEWS COMPILED BY DYANI BINGHAM

Did you know?

Montana is home to the Assiniboine (Nakoda), Blackfeet (Niitsitapi), Crow (Apsaalooke), Chippewa Cree (Anishinabe Ne-i-yah-wahk), Gros Ventre (Aaninin), Northern Cheyenne (Tsistsistas and So'taeo'o), Sioux (Dakota), Salish and Kootenai (Selish Ktunaxa) and Little Shell Tribes?

Indian Summer

Interested in exploring your surroundings this summer? Visiting Indian reservations is a fantastic way to learn more about Native art, culture, history and heritage.

It's powwow season. Here's a schedule of upcoming gatherings:

- 38th Annual Head Start Powwow, May 10 in Ronan (406-676-4509)
- Red Bottom Celebration, June 20-23 in Frazer (406-768-2416)
- White River Cheyenne Indian Days, June 21-23 in Busby (406-592-3252)
- Fourth of July Powwow, July 3-7 in Lame Deer (406-477-6284)
- Arlee Fourth of July Celebration, July 3-7 in Arlee (406-275-2727)
- North American Indian Days, July 11-14 in Browning (406-338-5194 or www.blackfeetnation.com)

For more information on powwows, go to www.visitmt.com and search Pow Wow Events.

The state tourism website also offers an Indian Nations travel guide, with an audio pronunciation guide, a guide to understanding and enjoying powwows, information on tribal histories and more. Go to www.visitmt.com/Places_To_Go/indian_nations/.

Seven Lodges

Another great travel resource is the Seven Lodges – Montana Tribal Tourism Handbook, which highlights American Indian hospitality, powwow etiquette, traveling tips, Indian Arts and Crafts Law, driving tips, cell-phone service and law enforcement info. The Seven Lodges guide also provides introductions to each tribal nation in Montana and highlights places to shop, eat and stay.

Find it at sevenlodges.dirxion.com.



Okan painted lodges

Foundation offers fellowships for Native American artists

The Native Arts and Cultures Foundation, a philanthropic organization dedicated exclusively to the revitalization, appreciation and perpetuation of indigenous arts and cultures in the United States, is accepting applications through May 3 for its 2014 Artist Fellowships.

Through the fellowship program, the foundation seeks to foster the creativity of indigenous artists, allowing the opportunity for study, reflection, experimentation, and discovery. Last year, the first year of the Artist Fellowship Program, artist applicants had to be nominated. This year, the foundation is not requiring applicants to be nominated.

Awards will be made in six disciplines: visual arts, filmmaking, music, dance, literature, and traditional arts.

Applicant artists must demonstrate excellence, significant impact in their discipline, respect from their colleagues, and recognition in their field. The artist's work must be evolving and current. Native artists are defined as American Indian from federally and state-recognized United States tribes, Native Alaskan or Native Hawaiian.

Film fellowships will be considered for artists who have completed narrative or documentary films at least 60 minutes in length.

Traditional arts include practices in pottery, carving, basket making, textile weaving, jewelry making, or regalia making.

Fellowships provide \$20,000 in support; application deadline is May 3. Guidelines and application procedures are available at the NACF website at nacf.us/2014-fellowships.

Deadline May 31 for Community Spirit Awards Nominations

The Community Spirit Awards is a national fellowship award for American Indian artists. First Peoples Fund chooses honorees for their commitment to sustaining the cultural values of native people.

The process of bringing spirit back to community is an important responsibility for artists – it is part of a sacred honor system. First Peoples Fund works to strengthen that honor system by recognizing these exceptional artists for know-

ing themselves, honoring others, and sustaining spirit in their own communities.

Nominees must be:

- Practicing artists of demonstrated maturity in their field;
- Continually practicing artists for a minimum of 10 years;

- Documented affiliate of a United States tribe (Native Alaska or Hawaii included);

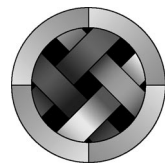
Note: In addition to visual arts, First Peoples recognizes contemporary and traditional forms of performing arts and literary arts.

Fellowships will be awarded to artists who demonstrate:

- An artistic practice that passes on the traditions and the life ways of the people;
- A commitment to building the strength of native communities by sharing their skills and talents with others in their respective communities; and
- Artists who are deeply rooted and maintain direct ties to their tribal community.

Nominate artists by May 31 online at www.firstpeoplesfund.org/nomination_form.html or send a postcard, including complete names and addresses of both nominee and nominator, to PO Box 2977, Rapid City, SD 57709. Nominated candidates must be from an American Indian community; applications will be mailed out after nomination deadline has passed.

A national selection committee will review nominees and select awardees from those that meet the outlined qualifications. Fellowship recipients will receive \$5,000 designed to give them the opportunity to "practice their art."



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SKC hosts Traditional Native Games Conference

Salish Kootenai College in Pablo and the International Traditional Games Society are hosting a Traditional Native Games Conference, June 26-28. Key-note Speaker is Dr. Gregory Cajete of the University of New Mexico, author of Spirit of the Games. Other presenters include scientists working in the field of social intelligence and brain research.

This unique conference offers a historical perspective of cultural values, reveals the purposes of the traditional native games, and explores the importance of restoring the games as relevant tools for social development for today's youth and family.

Registration is \$325 for adults and \$125 for youths before June 1, and an additional \$50 after June 1.

Register online at www.traditionalnativegames.org.

For more information, call Deanna Leader at 406-226-9141 or Craig Falcon at 406-226-9018.

NEWS FOR NONPROFITS

Renewed purpose: Four steps to focused, productive board meetings

Board meetings can inspire members and remind everyone you're part of something meaningful.

But just a few well-meaning yet misguided procedures can turn meetings into snooze-fests.

How do you keep everyone focused and get the most out of meetings?

Here are four key steps to energetic, productive meetings:

1. Do the work at home

The most common problem among deadly dull meetings: Time spent reviewing business info, when it could be done off-site.

Consent agendas allow boards to vote on items all at once, which means you can get voting done in as little as a few minutes.

This approach requires:

- A board chair or governance committee that gathers all the information needed and puts it in a format the board gets to read ahead of time, and

- All board-members doing their homework so they're prepared to vote.

Of course, if board members aren't prepared ahead of time, this approach won't work.

To get buy-in, make it clear how much time you expect board members to spend preparing for meetings. That way you'll have a better shot at getting them to study up in advance.

2. Make it meaningful

The second big time-eater: Long-winded discussions that get off-track.

This one can be a little tricky because board members need to have meaningful, substantive discussions during meetings.

The key: Choose one topic to discuss per meeting. The board chair can then draw people back to the topic when they start to get sidetracked.

"Board meetings are the centerpiece of the board's contribution," says Melanie Raymond, who's been chair of five different boards. "I'd rather err on the side of discussion so we don't

end up just rubber stamping a bunch of management reports."

3. Share something good

In addition to discussing a meaningful issue, it's also a good idea to include one success story on the agenda.

You may want to work with the staff so you can share a testimonial or give an update on what your organization has achieved lately.

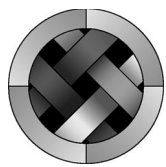
Keep it short – possibly as a feel-good element for the end of the meeting.

4. Be willing to change

Even great board meetings can get better. One way to keep improving: Assign a committee to take responsibility for monitoring board meetings.

The committee can be tasked with suggesting changes to make meetings more productive and interactive.

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Saying “thanks”: Avoid pitfalls when showing appreciation

Getting board members involved in thanking donors is a great way to introduce them to fundraising. But before putting someone in charge of thank-you notes, make sure they’re aware of the following appreciation pitfalls:

- Waiting too long. Your thank you should get out the door within 48 hours. Timely follow-up makes a difference. If more time passes, they’ll feel the gift wasn’t well-received.
- Misspelling donor’s names. There’s no faster way to make donors feel insignificant than misspelling their names. Double-check the spelling before putting it in ink.
- Sending it to “Friend.” When possible, personalize the salutation. Most people go by their first name (unless you know otherwise). It’s awkward to send a note to “Dear Ms. R. Beatrice” when the donor goes by “Bitty.”

• Not being specific. Put personalized notes in the card. For example, if they earmarked the gift for a particular purpose, note in the thank-you that you’ll spend it appropriately. The customization shows you listened to them.

For more ideas, go to: Tinyurl.com/ThankingDonorsNBR
– Reprinted with permission from The Nonprofit Board Report.

NEWS FOR NONPROFITS

Boards making an impact

Powerful storytelling technique inspires donors

I’ve learned that telling stories is a great way to inspire board members and donors. And how you tell the story makes a difference.

I like to paint a picture of how life will look without the organization – and compare it to how it could look with it. That always has a big impact on donors.

Imagine the possibilities

My favorite nonprofit story goes like this: Imagine a girl who lives in a dangerous neighborhood. She wants to participate in the after-school program, but can’t because it’s unsafe for her to walk home at 6 p.m. and her parents work until 8 p.m. Her friends have the same problem.

Now imagine that girl goes to her mentors from our nonprofit. They connect her to the county supervisor in her district. She asks for a meeting with the supervisor and they find a solution.

As a result, she and her fellow students stay after school and have a safe way home. This is our work.

– Nathan Slovin, Director of Customer Excellence Programs at Advanced Solutions International, Inc., Washington, DC

How we helped board members take the job seriously

In the past, our board meetings were largely social affairs. We always had food and board members wouldn’t prepare ahead of time.

As a result, they’d come in and we’d spend half the time telling them what was going on before we could get down to business. It was clear they didn’t feel engaged in the mission. And many people stopped coming.

Set new expectations

So we got the board together and laid out new expectations. We decided to have quarterly meetings without food or social time. And people were expected to prepare ahead of time.

Setting the expectations and following through has changed the tone of the meetings. Board members want to feel useful – and now they see how they can make a difference.

Change doesn’t happen overnight – and we’re still making progress in getting the whole board engaged. But we’re heading in the right direction.

– Elizabeth Gilmer, Director of External Affairs, East Georgia College, Swainsboro, GA

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Step-by-step pledges eased donors into larger gifts

We’d always relied heavily on grants. But because there’s less money available, we needed to boost donations. That was a major challenge because most people weren’t used to donating to our organization.

To ease them into it, we started a step-by-step endowment program. People can pledge a certain amount instead of paying all at once. It helps to ease them into making larger gifts.

Started internally

We started by marketing the program to current donors. It really worked – they’ve made much bigger commitments. Part of the reason is simply because we were willing to ask.

Our board members have participated as well. Two made significant endowment commitments. We still have a long way to go, but the approach is off to a good start.

– Fred Thursfield, President, Altoona Regional Health System Foundation, Altoona, PA

What inspires people to give? Famous fundraisers offer key insights

Even the most dedicated board members need a little inspiration when faced with the task of fundraising.

That’s true for rich and famous philanthropists, too, according to a new collection of interviews for Give Smart, which strives to help philanthropists make good decisions on giving.

In the video interviews, famous donors such as Michael J. Fox share inspirational stories about their commitment to a cause.

Here are a few of their stories and the lessons you can learn from them:

Seeing is believing

Richard Atlas, a founding member of the board for The California Endowment, shares the emotions he felt after his board’s director took him to see a tenement housing project in Los Angeles.

“Now I realize I’m not asking for anything. I’m saying, ‘Do you want to invest in this project and join us in the victory of finding an answer?’ It’s amazing how receptive people are to that message.”

– Michael J. Fox

Atlas was a new grandfather when he made the visit, so he was particularly moved by seeing young children playing in dirty hallways and sleeping in closets.

“I saw things I’d read about or seen in movies, but never seen in real life. It smelled and it was ugly,” Atlas says.

“I couldn’t believe people in our community lived like this. That had the hugest impact on me.”

The visit made him even more committed to the cause.

The takeaway: Site visits are worth the time and trouble, even for those who are already supporters.

Asking for donations

Michael J. Fox, who has become the celebrity face of Parkinson’s research, shares his personal struggle with asking for donations, and how he changed his way of thinking.

“My instinct always would have been not to ask for anything,” Fox says. But after successfully raising money, he saw it differently.

“Now I realize I’m not asking for anything. I’m saying, ‘Do you want to invest in this project and join us in the victory of finding an answer?’ It’s amazing how receptive people are to that message.”

The takeaway: Remember giving is an opportunity for the donor – not a favor.

What a picture can do

Ray Chambers, co-founder of Malaria No More, recalls how he chose which cause to support. It all started with a picture.

Fellow philanthropist Jeffrey Sachs showed him a photo of children sleeping in an African village.

They looked peaceful. But Sachs told him, “You don’t understand. They’re not sleeping – they’re in malaria comas and many of them have probably already died.”

“I’ll never get that image out of my mind’s eye,” Chambers says. He went on to start his new foundation.

The takeaway: It’s still important to share numbers and statistics. But remember images and stories are what move people to action.

Two sides of the charitable deductions debate

Although the recent “Fiscal Cliff” legislation retained the charitable deduction, the January 2013 issue of GuideStar shared two sides of the debate:

“Don’t Push Charities Over the Fiscal Cliff,” reprinted from the *Independent Sector*, Dec. 11, 2012, featured this letter:

Dear Mr. President and Members of Congress:

We, the undersigned, write to express our concern that ongoing discussions in Washington to avoid the so-called “fiscal cliff” may ultimately produce policies that disproportionately impact our most vulnerable communities. We lead nonprofit organizations whose tens of millions of employees and volunteers are working to improve lives in every community across America ...

And the *Nonprofit Quarterly* published this editorial, titled:

“In Defense of Taxes – Even If They Might Cut into Charitable Giving”:

“In recent weeks, nonprofit organizations mobilized against the threat that Congress would limit tax deductions for charitable gifts. Because charitable deductions provide an incentive for giving, many nonprofit leaders fear that scaling them back will make it harder to raise money. Following the ‘fiscal cliff’ negotiations, the charitable deduction remains more or less intact—at least for now.

“As we consider the broader implications of tax reform and government spending and gear up for legislative fights to come, I am concerned that many of my nonprofit colleagues are overreacting or – even worse – responding to the wrong threat ...”

For more on the debate, go to www.guidestar.org.

LAW AND THE ART WORLD

Loose ends: From dyed agate to the giclee hype

By Bill Frazier ©2012

In past issues I have written several times about the Indian Arts and Crafts Act and the abuses and fakes against which it was designed to protect consumers. This is of special interest to me and I am always on the look out for violations.

Most recently, I saw what appeared to be turquoise jewelry pieces but they just did not look quite right. After questions to and discussion with the seller, who was not an Indian, it was revealed that the “turquoise” was in fact dyed agate. From the display, the customer was to infer that the stuff was turquoise, but would be informed truthfully if the right questions were asked.

My question is this: with all of the good quality turquoise stones and jewelry on the market, why dye agate or some other stone, for example, “purple turquoise” as discussed in a previous article? Is turquoise-colored turquoise no longer good enough?! Always, buyer beware.

This particular dyed agate (fake turquoise) apparently came, ironically enough, from Turkey, the namesake of turquoise. If your intent is to be buying turquoise or other Indian-made jewelry, stick with reliable and reputable dealers and galleries. Watch out for mall kiosks and things you might find in art-in-the-park events and similar venues. I would also watch out for stores that sell “Indian”-made jewelry for 50 percent off 365 days of the year.

I continue to be amused with the ingenuity displayed in the marketing of prints and specifically limited edition prints. Over the years I have noted the variety of limited edition prints offered in order to expand an edition and have now learned of a new one, the presentation-edition print, available for only \$25 more than the regular one.

And the giclee hype continues. Giclees are the current state of the art in print reproduction. They are not originals and they are not worth as much as originals.

No copying allowed

I do not know where some of the stuff I hear comes from. The ubiquitous copying formula has appeared again. Every time I teach a seminar someone informs me that his or her agent, mentor, advisor, art teacher or whom-ever has advised that a certain percentage of

another’s work can be copied without worry. Another variation is that they may copy all they want to so long as they give some form of attribution, for example, “after Frederic Remington.” Or, they can copy in watercolor what they have seen before in oil. NO, NO, and NO.

I do not care what your art teacher or agent says. There is no formula governing how much you may copy of someone else’s artwork. The next question is why are you worrying about copying someone else’s work, anyway? You may not copy and simply give a credit or attribution and expect to walk away from the responsibility of copyright infringement of another artist’s work.

An artist may not copy in one medium the work of another artist in another medium. In other words, the artist may not copy an oil painting by re-doing it in watercolor or acrylic. The image is still the same and the image is what is protected by copyright.

Virtually all artists get inspiration and ideas from looking at other artists’ work. This has been the case throughout history. What is prohibited is copying. That is why we have copyright protection and copyright infringement cases. The intent is to protect original work and the artist’s creativity.

The artist as businessperson

At a recent social function with a number of artsy people, I met two arts education administrators at the university level. One had a background totally in the arts, an art degree, an art career and was head of an art department. The other was educated as a lawyer but had come up through the education ranks and was now the head of a university arts program.

We hit it off, got to talking and I explained my interest in the arts from the legal and business standpoint. I explained what I thought was the value of some business and legal education benefiting the professional artist, and that I viewed the professional artist as a businessperson competing with others in the marketplace.

The lawyer administrator totally got it and wanted to introduce such thinking and coursework into her art school. The art administrator saw no value in offering such information in her courses, having never thought about



Bill Frazier

life after art school. She felt that such training would interfere with the students’ artistic concentration.

There are so many issues for an artist to consider after art school, for example, how to enter the job market, how to market work to galleries, how to protect the intellectual property embodied by the artwork, how to price artwork, how to network with other artists, as well as internet presence and marketing, accounting decisions, business structures and so on. Once you learn the mechanics of art, what do you do with it, how do you develop your artistic talent and training into a career?

Waiting for a check

A few artists are still telling me that they must wait 30 to 45 days, or even longer, to receive payment after the sale of their work in a gallery. This is not acceptable and the artist should insist on faster payment. The longer the artist has to wait, the less the likelihood of even being paid.

Galleries, there is no legitimate reason to require the artist to wait that long for payment. There are many old gallery representation agreements out there with such provisions, but that is no longer an acceptable practice. Presumably, this is a holdover from the days of long check-clearing times.

Bill Frazier served a lengthy and invaluable tenure as chairman of the Montana Arts Council. He’s in private practice in Big Timber, and can be reached at 406-932-5453 or artlaw@mtintouch.net. MAC thanks Art of the West for permission to reprint this series.



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Encouraging ethical practices

Many donors won’t make contributions unless a nonprofit meets joint standards set by the Council of Better Business Bureaus and the National Charities Information Bureau.

Honoring privacy

To gain its seal of approval, the Wise Giving Alliance requires charities to protect privacy by providing in written appeals (at least once a year) a way for new and continuing donors to choose to keep their name and address confidential. For example, there should be a check box allowing them to remain anonymous.

In addition, endorsed charities must provide a clear, easy-to-find privacy policy on all websites that explains:

- What information is being collected about them and how it will be used;
- How to review personal information and request corrections;
- How website visitors can inform the charity if they don’t want their personal information shared outside the organization; and
- What security measures the charity uses to protect personal information.

For more information, call the Wise Giving Alliance, 800-575-4483.

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Tech Talk: Setting up a WordPress website, part II

In the last issue, I covered the steps of signing up for an account at WordPress.com in order to start a free website for yourself or your arts organization.

Once you’ve registered a site name with your email at Wordpress.com and made a few choices about upgrades (none of which are required; using WordPress.com can still be completely free), you’ll be asked for a “tagline” for your site. Enter one – such as the full name of your arts organization, or a description of your arts business – but again, you can easily change this later.

The next screen is where you choose a theme, or design, for your site. You’ll see a half dozen or so choices, and some may look good right away. But it’s important to remember you can always change the design later without having to change everything you have entered on your pages.

So choose a theme that looks OK for now, because you can browse through hundreds later on.

The most popular and simplest themes are the WordPress defaults, such as the “twenty-something” series, like twentyten, twentyeleven, etc. With some theme choic-

es, you’ll be given the option to start customizing the theme right away, but you should click through that screen and finish setting up the site first. You can always go back, and it makes sense to customize after you get some of your page content in the site.

The next step will take you to what’s called the “Dashboard” of your WordPress.com site. This is where all the site administration takes place: your posts and pages, your widgets, the site users, and everything else.

You can click on the name of your site in the upper left-hand corner to go to the site itself, but check out the Dashboard first and try out each link. When logged in and viewing the actual site, there will be an “Admin Bar” across the top that only you will see.

It’s easy to point and click, and explore and build out your site. The online forums at en.forums.wordpress.com also offer a lot of



Mark Ratledge is an information technology consultant. His website is markratledge.com.

help and step-by-step guidelines.

WordPress will handle many of your website needs. But if you find you need more capabilities than WordPress.com offers – such as e-commerce, the need to place ads on your site, use an original design, or add custom functions for special business needs – you can still use WordPress.

The only difference is you take a copy of the same WordPress software and put it on your own web server, and

then you have much more control and more available options. That’s not too complicated, and it’s cheap at around \$80-\$100 a year for the web hosting. Using your own web host will give you many more choices and possibilities for a full-fledged web presence.

There are more than 40 million people using WordPress right now, so you won’t be alone and it will be easy to find help with what you want to do with your site.



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ArtJob is Online

To find good jobs in the arts online use ArtJob Online, located at www.artjob.org. Launched by WESTAF, the Western States Arts Federation, ArtJob Online is dedicated to connecting individuals with jobs and opportunities in the arts. The service does cost, with rates posted on the website.

ArtJob Online features a national database of job listings in all arts disciplines in the nonprofit, commercial, academic, and public sectors. The website also features information about fellowships, grants, residencies, and other artist and art-related opportunities. Job seekers using ArtJob Online can search the job listings database by several criteria and have access to an employer database that includes background and contact information about employers in the arts.

The ArtJob website also allows job seekers to market themselves online by posting their resumé, which is accessible to organizations and companies that are registered users of the site. The site is constantly updated with real-time job postings, and makes information about opportunities available as soon as they are announced.

OPPORTUNITIES

Disclaimer: No endorsement is intended or made of any product, service or information either by its inclusion or exclusion from the Opportunities section of the *State of the Arts*. While all attempts are made to ensure the correctness and suitability of information under our control and to correct any errors brought to our attention, no representation or guarantee can be made as to the correctness or suitability of that information or any other linked information presented, referenced or implied. All critical information should be independently verified.

Visual Arts, Crafts and Photography: Call for Entries, State of Montana

The Holiday and Gift Festival in Billings seeks artists and vendors for the 28th annual event, Nov. 16-17. Over 10,000 shoppers attend this two-day show, under new management, at the MetraPark Expo Center. Visit www.holidayfoodandgiftfestival.com or call 406-294-9116 for information. **EARLY BIRD DEADLINE:** May 1, 2013.

The Great Western Living and Design Exhibition seeks western artisans and vendors of fine crafts, furniture, leather, apparel and accessories for the March 20-23, 2014 Western Art Week in Great Falls. The annual event showcases the largest collection of western artists and buyers in the U.S. Contact Chuck Fulcher at chuck@thegreatwesternshow.com or visit www.thegreatwesternshow.com for details.

Western Art and Gear Show in Lewistown seeks artists and vendors for its outdoor show, Aug. 16-19, in conjunction with the 28th annual Montana Cowboy Poetry and Western Music Rendezvous. Only 35 booths are available. Call 406-538-4575 or email Karen Kuhlmann at kbkuhlmann@midrivers.com for details. **DEADLINE:** July 15, 2013.

The Depot Center Festival of the Arts, sponsored by the Livingston Depot Center, seeks artists and craftspeople in all media for this 26th annual juried event, July 2-4. Call 406-222-2300 or visit www.livingstondepot.org for details. **DEADLINE:** May 10, 2013.

The Last Best Solstice: Art on the River in Missoula is looking for local artists to create art in Caras Park June 21. The day culminates in a live auction of completed pieces and the event includes food, drink and music. Send three jpeg samples of your work, along with your name and contact information, to matt@missoulacultural.org. Visit www.missoula.cultural.org or call 406-541-0860 for details. **DEADLINE:** April 30, 2013.

The Art in the Park event in Lincoln, Aug. 10-11, seeks artists. Visit <https://sites.google.com/lincolncouncilforthearts/> to apply or call 406-431-9479 for information. **DEADLINE:** May 15, 2013.

Choteau Summer Festival in Choteau seeks artists, crafts people and food vendors for the July 6 event. Call Cori at 406-466-3139 or email coriinchoteau@yahoo.com for details. **DEADLINE:** June 20, 2013.

The Sandpiper Gallery in Polson seeks entries for the juried 42nd annual Outdoor Art Festival, Aug. 10. Send SASE to: Art Festival, P.O. Box 1163, Polson, MT 59860. Call 406-471-5243 or email festival@sandpiperartgallery.com for information. **DEADLINE:** May 31, 2013.

The Havre Chamber of Commerce invites artists and crafters to participate in the Festival of Crafts and Arts at the Great Northern Fairgrounds. Over 70 local and visiting artists and

Want the latest info on opportunities?

Using email, the arts council manages three biweekly information newsletters that provide current and ongoing opportunities. Artists, arts organizations and arts educators each have their own list.

To sign up for any or all of these information tools, email Beck McLaughlin at bemclaughlin@mt.gov or look for the sign-up form on our website and in the newspaper.

crafters will be featured at the 30th annual event Sept. 21-22. For information, email chamberdesk@havremt.net or call 406-265-4383. **DEADLINE:** Aug. 1, 2013.

The Whitefish Chamber of Commerce invites artists and vendors to participate in the 24th annual Huckleberry Days Art Festival, Aug. 9-11, in Depot Park, downtown Whitefish. The fair is juried and open to hand-crafted items that are the creation of the vendor. Send application and payment to Whitefish Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box 1120, Whitefish, MT 59937. Call 406-862-3501 or visit www.whitefishchamber.org for information. **DEADLINE:** June 1, 2013.

Visual Arts, Crafts and Photography: Call for Entries, National

International Contemporary Artists seeks artists for the sixth volume in a series of international art books. A jury committee will select contemporary artists to be featured in the book. Artists can apply by sending 4-5 jpeg images of their work by email along with a short statement or essay. All media are accepted; the only requirement is that you must buy two copies of the book at \$85 ea. Visit www.incoartists.com for details.

Aesthetica Magazine seeks entries for the Aesthetica Art Prize, an opportunity to showcase contemporary art from established or budding artists to a wider, international audience. Artists may submit their work into any one of these four categories for either the main prize or the student prize: photographic and digital art; three dimension design and sculpture; painting and drawing; and installation, video and performance. Prizes include editorial coverage in the magazine and publication in Aesthetica Art Prize Anthology plus cash awards. Visit www.aestheticamagazine.com/artprize for details. **DEADLINE:** Aug. 31, 2013.

The New American Paintings Magazine seeks entries for the juried exhibition-in-print 2013 West issue of the magazine. Forty artists will be selected from competitors from fourteen states comprising the west region by juror Veronica Roberts, curator of modern and contemporary art at the Blanton Museum of Art in Austin, TX. To apply online you will need to submit four jpegs of your work and a \$50 entry fee. Visit www.newamericanpaintings.net/submissions/ or call 888-235-2783 for details. **DEADLINE:** April 30, 2013.

The U.S.A. Songwriting Competition, the world's leading international songwriting event, announces their 18th annual competition is accepting entries. There are 15 possible categories at \$35 per entry. Visit www.songwriting.net to download entry form; email info@songwriting.net or call 954-537-3127 for information. **DEADLINE:** May 31, 2013.

Workshops/Conferences

Eagle Mount's Horsemanship Camp in Bozeman announces an equestrian program to acquaint volunteers with therapy horses and Eagle Mount's mission. The inaugural camp for children ages 9-12 and 13-16 runs June 17-21; \$300 fee. Visit www.eaglemount.org or call 406-586-1781 for details. **DEADLINE:** May 31, 2013.

Crown of the Continent Guitar Workshop runs Aug. 25-Sept. 1 at the Flathead Lake Lodge on Flathead Lake. Nationally renowned faculty include Matt Smith, Jody Fisher, Jeff McErlain, Mark Dziuba, Dennis McCumber, Susan Mazar, James Hogan, Tobias Hurwitz, Doug Smith, Andrew Leonard, Bret Boyer, Clipper Anderson, Pete Sweeney, Brad Boal, and Mark Cornett. Artists-in-residence include Lee Ritenour, Scott Tennant, Pat Metheny and Robben Ford. Workshops in eight different genres are offered for beginners to advanced players. Visit cocguitarfoundation.org or call 855-855-5900 for information. **DEADLINE:** August 1, 2013 or when sold out.

The Cobalt Moose Art Studios in Bozeman hosts a four-day "Painting the Wild – Harmonizing Wild Subjects and their Natural Environment" workshop Aug. 13-16 with wildlife painter Chad Poppleton. Lectures, painting demonstrations, opportunities for individual instruction, and group critique sessions are available. Visit www.cobaltmoose.com or call 406-585-5443 for details.

Two Rivers Gallery in Big Timber offers the following workshops: Photography – Photo-shop 1, April 20, (\$75) and Photography – Photoshop II, May 4 (\$75) with Sarah Burns; Watercolor with Sarah Peterson, May 17-19 and May 20-24; and "Redefining Drawing" with Dawn Emerson, June 7-9. Visit www.tworiversgallery.org or call 406-932-4009 for information.

The Downtown Dance Collective in Missoula offers Hard Shoe Irish Dance classes Thursdays, through May 30. Call 406-541-7240 for details.

John Poon offers three Montana workshops: Studio Landscape Painting, in Bigfork, May 6-10; Fundamentals of Landscape Painting (plein air), in Columbia Falls, June 24-28, and Outdoor Painting (plein air, advanced only), in Columbia Falls, Sept. 23-27. Call 406-837-2913 or email LaelGray@montanasky.net for details.

Montana State University-Billings sponsors a four-day Joseph Fittingis Watercolor Workshop June 3-6. Limited space; \$275 tuition. Contact Montana Watercolor Outfit members at 406-259-6400, 406-259-7470 or 406-256-6124 for details. **DEADLINE:** May 3, 2013.

Red Lodge Clay Center in Red Lodge offers the following: Mother's Day Family Class, May 4 (\$10); a week-long adult clay camp, July 8-12 (\$100); and two three-day kids clay camps, July 15-17 and July 22-24 (\$50). Visit www.redlodgeclaycenter.com or call 406-446-3993 for information.

Summer Art Camp for Children is offered by the Lesman Studio in Billings, July 25-28. Classes include drawing, watercolor, oil pastels, calligraphy, print making, creation of a musical instrument, movement, and poetry. Call 406-252-5780 or email ManaLesman@pintora@108.com for details.

Miss Linda's School of Dance in Great Falls offers a Summer Dance Study June 17-21 with guest instructors Kathy Calahan who will teach tap and musical theater; Jacqueline Sinclair who will teach jazz; and Marcus Bugler, ballet. An array of specialty classes are offered, including musical theatre, hip-hop and jazz funk. Open to dancers of all ages with elementary to advanced skill levels. Visit



The top crowd-funding sites:

- Crowdrise (www.crowdrise.com): Provides a public source for charity fundraising
 - Grow VC (www.growvc.com): An international outfit that aims to connect profit-minded investors with entrepreneurs
 - Indiegogo (www.indiegogo.com): A preferred choice for filmmakers, musicians and artists
 - Kickstarter (www.kickstarter.com): The largest crowd-finding site, a haven for general-interest projects
 - Microryza (www.myroryza.com): Allows anyone interested to fund scientific research
 - Peerbackers (www.peerbackers.com): Takes a business-oriented approach, catering to entrepreneurs and start-ups
 - RocketHub (www.rockethub.com): Offers exclusive real-world opportunities – e.g., gallery showings and musical showcases – competitors don’t
- From *The Costco Connection*, November 2012

www.misslindasdance.com or call 406-761-8876 for class descriptions and registration details.

The Blackwood/Friedland Studio in Bozeman hosts a Painting and Drawing Horses workshop with Loren Entz (Cowboy Artists of America), July 26-28 (\$525). Early Bird registration deadline: May 1, 2013 (\$475). Call 406-586-4484 for details or visit www.susanblackwood.com to register.

Stumptown Art Studio in Whitefish offers the following for May: Glass Fusing with Melanie Drown, May 8; Precious Metal Clay (PMC) with Kris Kramer, May 13 (\$80-\$85); Cultural and Art History Club with Rosella Mosteller, May 14; Wild Women Wednesday, May 15; and Canvas and Cocktails with Souheir Rawlings, May 31. Clayground Time with Stephanie Seguin continues in a custom-class format, and Open Studio is available Sundays, noon-5 p.m. Call 406-862-5929 or visit www.stumptownartstudio.org for details.

The Hockaday Museum of Art in Kalispell offers the following classes and workshops: Painting with Pastels with Janet Sullivan, May 3-5 (\$200-\$225); and Plein Air Landscape Painting with Nicholas Oberling, June 15-16 (\$200-\$225). Crits and Croissants: A Saturday Morning Artists’ Critique is offered May 11 with guest Mark Ogle. The Summer Art Camp, June 18-19, for children ages 6-12, provides a learning opportunity to draw textures for furry animals, scaly fish and feathered friends in “Fur, Fin and Feathers” (\$44-\$54). Visit www.hockadaymuseum.org or call 406-755-5268.

Butte Copper City Artists are offering a two-day “Art Sampler” workshop with sculptor George Bumann in Butte June 7-8. One day will concentrate on improving drawing and painting skills and the other on clay. This workshop offers an opportunity to try several different art forms, and is in conjunction with the Montana Interpretations Juried Art Show. Call Marie at 406-494-8357 or email pj_wolf@earthlink.net for details.

The Pacific Coast Dance Fest offers two Summer Intensives for dancers. Non-competitive, inspiring and challenging offerings will be held in Minnesota July 25-31 and in California Aug. 4-10. Tuition is \$1,375 per session. Visit www.pacificcoastdancefest.com or call 888-909-3378 for details.

Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art in Great Falls offers the following workshops: Wood Kiln Pottery with Andrew Nagengast, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. April 20; and Brenda Wolf Pastels, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. May 18. Other educational offerings include: Paper Arts (60+), Fridays, through June 7; Senior Art Sampler (60+), Wednesdays, through May 29; Figure Drawing 1, Tuesdays, through May 28; Creative Photo-graphy, Tuesdays, through June 4; Beginning Pottery, Thursdays, through June 13; Advanced Pottery, Mondays, through June 10; Drawing for Seniors (60+) will continue on Tuesdays, and the Pottery Open Studio is also ongoing. Year-round T’ai Chi classes are available. Visit www.the-square.org or call 406-727-8255 for details.

The Summer Art Academy is offered on the campus of Rocky Mountain College in Billings for young artists, ages 8-14, June 17-21. Students can choose either three or four of the

classes offered (complete listing on website). Fee for three classes is \$275 and \$325 for four classes. Visit www.mtsummerartacademy.com or call 406-259-6563 for details. DEADLINE: June 1, 2013.

The Targhee Music Camp in Alta, Wyoming is a three-and-a-half day educational event running Aug. 5-8. Instructors include Grant Gordy, Dan Miller and Courtney Hartman, guitar; Stuart Duncan and Kimber Ludiker, fiddle; Mike Compton, Ben Winship and Jenni Lyn Gardner, mandolin; Alan O’Bryant, banjo; Shelby Means and Eric Thorin, bass; Celia Woodsmith, singing; Hayes Carll, songwriting; and Della Mae is the band in residence. Tuition is \$450. Call 800-TARGHEE or visit www.targheemusiccamp.com for details.

Zootown Arts Community Center in Missoula is offering the following classes and workshops: Printshop Orientation, 6 p.m. first Thursday of each month (\$20); Glass Fusing Orientation, 6 p.m. third Tuesday of every month (\$15); Relief Printing, 6 p.m. July 9 (\$20/free for members); Open Air Landscape Painting, 2 p.m. Aug. 4 (\$20/free for members); Book Making, 6 p.m. Sept. 9 (\$20/free for members); Paper Making for Adults, 2 p.m. Nov. 3 (\$20/free for members); and Intro to Calligraphy, 6 p.m. Dec. 10 (\$20/free for members). Second Friday celebrations 5:30-8:30 p.m. each month include a free class in silkscreening and live music. Visit www.zootownarts.org or call 406-549-7555 for information.

The Sandpiper Art Gallery in Polson has the following workshops scheduled for 2013: “Watercolor for the Terrified” with Joanne Simpson, Thursdays May 2-30 (\$125); “Ponds and Puddles” with Simpson, June 29-30 (\$45-\$90); “Watercolor Sketching Outdoors” with Patrick Berry, July 20 (\$125); “Transparent Oil and Oil Pastel” with Joan Mason, Sept. 14 (\$45-\$65); and “Painting with Texture” with Mason, Oct. 12 (\$45-\$60). Two four-day oil painting workshops with Tom Lewis are offered for beginners or experts, April 29-May 2 and repeated May 13-16 (class size limited to 8; \$245). Call 406-883-5956 or visit sandpiperartgallery.com for details.

The Hot Springs Artists Society offers a pine needle basket workshop with Cindy Hackenburg, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. May 18 (\$32). Call 406-741-2059 or email marla@western-art.com to register or for information.

The Montana Watercolor Society offers a members’ workshop with Kathy Collins in Lewistown on June 22-23 at the Lewistown Art Center. Learn Collins’s secrets to create simple, yet powerful, impressionistic watercolors. Workshop includes full-color, step-by-step handouts describing her techniques. Class size is limited to 20. Contact Jacqueline at 406-535-8278 or email lswc94@gmail.com. DEADLINE: June 1, 2013.

The Archie Bray Foundation in Helena announces its 2013 schedule of workshops: “Investigating Surface with Majolica” with Linda Arbuckle, May 17-19 (\$335); “An Invitation to Slow Down” with Matt Kelleher and Shoko Teruyama, June 10-14 (\$495); “Opposites Attract” with Chris Staley and Nancy Blum, July 8-19 (\$795); “A Ceramic Record: Models, Molds, Casting” with Tony Marsh, Aug. 16-18 (\$335); “Figurative Sculpture with Slab Construction” with Wanxin Zhang,

Sept. 20-22 (\$335); and “Flames: Wood Firing” with Tara Wilson, Oct. 7-11 (\$495). The “Summer Ceramics for Young Artists” program, for children ages six to high school teens, has a May 21 deadline for registration. To register, call 406-443-3502, ext. 13 (for workshops) or ext. 14 (for classes) or visit www.archiebray.org.

Encaustic painting and creativity workshops are hosted by Shawna Moore in her Whitefish studio. Moore also presents the following workshops: Wax and Paper at the Encaustic Barn, McIlrath Farm, Pepin, WI, May 17-19, and at the Wyly Community Art Center in Basalt, CO, June 22-23; and Encaustic Pigment Stick, Zhou B Art Center, Chicago, May 24-26, and at the AhHaa School for the Arts in Telluride, CO, June 15-16. Visit www.shawnamoore.com for pricing and workshop descriptions.

Grants

The National Endowment for the Arts offers Challenge America Fast-Track, which offers support primarily to small and mid-sized organizations for projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations. Grants are available to professional arts programming and for projects that emphasize the potential of the arts in community development. The program encourages and supports two outcomes: engagement (engaging the public with diverse and excellent art); and livability (the strengthening of communities through the arts). Visit www.arts.gov/grants or call 800-518-4726 for specific details. DEADLINE: May 23, 2013.

First Peoples Fund offers a 2014 Artist in Business Leadership Program, an independent business arts fellowship program, that features a working capital grant of \$5,000 to be used to support a one-year marketing plan/strategy or business goal as defined by the artist applicant. Artists will receive technical assistance, a professional network of peers, as well as travel funds to participate in individualized professional development workshops. Applicants must be a member of a Northern Great Plains tribe. Visit www.firstpeoplesfund.org or call 605-348-0324 for details. DEADLINE: Sept. 1, 2013.

Surdna Foundation offers the Thriving Cultures program which seeks to create just and sustainable communities in four ways: Teens’ Artistic and Cultural Advancement; Community Engaged Design; Artists and Economic Development; and Artists Engaging in Social Change. The Thriving Cultures program is based on a belief that communities with robust arts and culture are more cohesive and prosperous. Visit www.surdna.org to view the guidelines for each program and directions to submit letters of inquiry.

The Creative Capital/Warhol Foundation Arts Writers Grant Program supports writers whose work addresses contemporary visual art through grants issued directly to individual authors for articles, blogs, books, new and alternative media, and short-form writing. The program seeks to honor and encourage writing about art, and supports approximately 20 to 25 projects each year with grants ranging from \$3,000 to \$50,000, depending on the scope and complexity of the project. Designed to encourage and reward writing about contemporary art that is rigorous, passionate, eloquent, and precise, as well as to create a broader audience for arts writing, the Arts Writers Grant Program aims to strengthen the field as a whole and to ensure that critical writing remains a valued mode of engaging the visual arts. Visit www.artswriters.org to join the email list to receive information about the 2013 application. DEADLINE: May 15, 2013.

Continued on next page

Advocacy Resources

- The following list of resources is from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies:
- Advocacy Tools: www.nasaa-arts.org/Advocacy/Advocacy-Tools/index.php
 - Why Should Government Support the Arts? www.nasaa-arts.org/Advocacy/Advocacy-Tools/Why-Government-Support/index.php
 - The NASAA Advocate Series: www.nasaa-arts.org/Publications/The-NASAA-Advocate.php
 - Federal Legislative Updates: www.nasaa-arts.org/Advocacy/Federal-Updates/index.php



National arts resources

- **National Endowment for the Arts:** 1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20506; 202-682-5400; www.artsendow.gov; email: webmgr@arts.endow.gov.
- **National Endowment for the Humanities:** 1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20506; 202-606-8400; www.neh.fed.us.
- **Arts 4 All People:** www.arts4allpeople.org; email: a4ap@wallacefunds.org.
- **Americans for the Arts:** 1000 Vermont Ave. NW, 12th Floor, Washington, DC 20005; 202-371-2830; www.artusa.org.
- **American Association of Museums:** 1571 Eye St. NW, Ste. 400, Washington, DC 20005; 202-289-1818; www.aam-us.org.
- **National Trust for Historic Preservation:** 1785 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20036; 202-588-6000; www.nationaltrust.org.
- **ADA Services Unit:** U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 1801 L St. NW, Rm. 9024, Washington, DC 20507; 202-663-4900 or 800-669-4000 for employment questions; www.eeoc.gov/facts.
- **New York Foundation for the Arts:** 155 Avenue of the Americas, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10013-1507; 212-366-6900; www.nyfa.org.
- **Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board:** 1331 F St. NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20004; 800-872-2253; www.access-board.gov.
- **National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC):** 800-346-2742 or 800-344-5405 for assistive technology product information.

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) has posted its Guidelines for Fiscal Year 2014 Grants for Arts Projects. The NEA will support projects in the Art Works category that achieve the following four outcomes: Creation, Engagement, Learning or Livability. Visit the website, www.arts.gov/grants, to determine the funding category and deadline with the NEA outcome that most closely corresponds to the primary focus of your proposed project. DEADLINE: August 8, 2013 (Engagement, Learning and Livability).

The Montana Watercolor Society announced Montana residents and MTWS members, aged 18-35, are eligible to apply for a workshop scholarship. Kathy Collins’s Impressionistic Watercolor Workshop is June 22-23 at the Lewistown Art Center in Lewistown. Contact Jacqueline at 406-535-8278 or email lswc94@gmail.com for application. DEADLINE: May 15, 2013.

The Creative Arts Exchange program provides support for arts-based international people-to-people exchanges that support and further U.S. Department of State foreign policy objectives. Current themes include economic statecraft and the arts, arts in collaboration, community engagement through the arts, and professional development in the arts. Visit http://eca.state.gov/organizational-funding/open-grant-solicitations for specifics. DEADLINE: May 6, 2013.

The National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grants program provides support for capacity-building grants, intended to help institutions and organizations secure long-term improvements in and support for their humanities programs and resources. Visit www.neh.gov/grants/challenge/challenge grants for details. DEADLINE: May 1, 2013.

The National Native Artist Exchange, administered by the New England Foundation for the Arts, is designed to support the exchange of artistic skills and knowledge among Native artists. American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian artists throughout the United States may apply to teach, learn and collaborate in traditional and/or contemporary Native art forms through travel from one region to another across the nation. The applicant must identify a collaborating artist and specific project as part of the exchange, which must be beneficial to both artists. Grants of up to \$1,500 will be awarded based on budgets appropriate to the scope of travel. Requests must be received at least two calendar months prior to the departure date of the proposed trip. Visit www.nefa.org to review the program guidelines.

The Costco Wholesale Corporate Contributions Program supports nonprofit organizations in company-operating communities throughout the U.S. and Canada, as well as international locations. Grants and product donations are provided to nonprofit organizations and educational institutions that address the areas of children’s issues, education, and health and human services. Local organizations should submit requests to the Warehouse Manager at the nearest Costco. Grant or donation requests impacting a broader region should go through the appropriate regional office. Visit www.costco.com to review the donation and grant eligibility guidelines.

The All Roads Seed Grant Program funds film projects by and about indigenous and underrepresented minority-culture filmmakers

year-round and from all reaches of the globe. The program seeks filmmakers who bring their lives and communities to light through first-person storytelling. Submission deadlines are quarterly on the 15th of each March, June, September, and December. For more information, call 202-857-7660, email allroads@ngs.org or visit www.nationalgeographic.com.

Performing Arts

The Fork Peck Performing Arts Camp offers a comprehensive theatre experience July 30-Aug. 8 for students in grades 3-12. The curriculum-based classes are taught by professionals, and the two-week training culminates in a performance for the public on Aug. 8. Call 406-253-6446 or email morganphelps5@gmail.com for details. EARLY BIRD DEADLINE: June 28, 2013.

The Montana Cowboy Poetry Gathering and Western Music Rendezvous in Lewistown seeks cowboy poets, western musicians and vendors for the 28th annual gathering, Aug. 15-18. Headlining this year’s gathering is Roy Rogers Jr. This event is dedicated to preserving and celebrating the history, heritage and values of the American cowboy. Call 406-538-4575 or visit montanacowboypoetrygathering.com to sign up. DEADLINE: July 15 for inclusion in the program book. (Registrants after July 15 will not be in the official program book.)

Job Opportunities

Exam2Jobs is an online resource for photographers and designers seeking positions in niche publications. Visit http://www.exam2jobs.com/design-jobs.html to review specific jobs listed.

The International Wildlife Media Center and Film Festivals in Missoula announces an open search for an executive director/festival director. IWFF was the first and is now the longest running wildlife film festival in the world. IWMC/FF is a non-profit, year-round media organization whose mission is to promote awareness, knowledge and understanding of wildlife, habitat, people and nature through excellence in film, television and other media. The director will supervise a variety of programs and projects, including overseeing the management of the Roxy Theater rentals. Send a cover letter, resume and three references by email only to iwff@wildlifefilms.org.

VSA Montana, the state organization on arts and disabilities in Helena seeks an accomplished leader with a passion for the arts and arts education that focuses on meeting the needs of people with disabilities. Candidate must possess strong interpersonal and organizational skills, and should have successful experience in an art or disability field, and an educational background that includes arts, arts education or disability. Previous experience in non-profit management is preferred. This part-time position entails program management and development, grant writing, fundraising, events management and marketing. Submit cover letter, curriculum vitae, salary expectations, and a statement on why you are interested in this position to alayne@vsamontana.org. DEADLINE: June 1, 2013.

Paris Gibson Square Museum of Art’s Education Department in Great Falls is seeking instructors to teach and assist in classrooms for their winter, spring and summer schedules. Instructors must teach at least one art discipline (painting, drawing, photography, pottery, sculpture, etc.) and have experience teaching children and persons with special needs. For information or to apply, contact Jeff Kuratnick, Curator of Education, at 406-727-8255 or email jeffk@the-square.org.

Literature and Playwriting

Reflections West, a five-minute public radio program on life and literature in the West, is accepting short 250-word essays on fresh and lively perspectives. Listen to episodes online to get a sense of the scripts and see submission guidelines at reflectionswest.org. Email questions to lisa@reflectionswest.org. NEXT DEADLINE: July 1, 2013.

Idaho Prize for Poetry 2013 is accepting entrants for a national competition offering \$1000, plus publication, for a book-length poetry manuscript (48 pages or more). Send script, a \$25 reading fee and SASE to: The Idaho Prize, Lost Horse Press, 105 Lost Horse Lane, Sandpoint, ID 83864. Visit www.losthorsepress.org for guidelines. DEADLINE: May 15, 2013.

Media Arts

Independent Filmmaker Labs has announced a new call for entries for Independent Film Week, Sept. 15-19, in two categories: Emerging Storytellers and Spotlight on Documentaries. Call 212-465-8200 ext. 208 or visit www.ifp.org for guidelines. DEADLINE: May 3, 2013.

The Northwest Short 10 Film Competition is open to filmmakers in Washington, Oregon, Montana, and Alaska. All genres are welcome for this regular short film competition of films shot between January 2012 and now. The Best of Show prize is \$500 cash, a glass sculpture trophy and a screening at the Short 10 Cinema Film Festival in Everett, WA, January 2014. Subcategory awards are also available. Visit www.short10cinema.com for submission details. DEADLINE: Oct. 15, 2013.

The South Dakota Film Festival in Aberdeen, SD, has an open call to filmmakers in six categories: feature narrative (at least 40 minutes in length), feature documentary, short narrative, short documentary, feature animation, short animation, and family friendly films. The screening runs Sept. 26-29. The festival emphasizes films from the Great Plains, but that is not the only focus. Visit www.southdakotafilmfest.org or call 605-216-6650 for details. EXTENDED DEADLINE: July 28, 2013.

The Fantastic Fest in Austin, TX, seeks entries for its film festival, Sept. 19-26, which specializes in horror, fantasy, sci-fi, action and just plain fantastic movies from around the world. Feature films must be at least 50 minutes in length, and short films must be less than 50 minutes in length. Visit fantasticfest.com for more information. DEADLINE: May 29, 2013.

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MAC GRANTS & SERVICES

Artist’s Innovation Awards

The Montana Arts Council launched this awards program to honor the innovative ideas, practices and the contributions of Montana artists. This application can only be completed online. The next deadline will be determined by July 1, 2013.

Artists in Schools/Communities Grants

The Arts Education program contains three distinct components which provide participatory experiences in arts learning that increase or strengthen participants’ knowledge and skills in the arts.

1. Artist visits: The artist visits program encompasses visits lasting from one to four days with no more than four hours of contact time per day.
2. Residencies: Short-term residencies last one to four weeks, or a total of five to 20 days over a longer period of time. Long-term residencies are residencies of five weeks or longer, up to one year.
3. Special projects: This funding broadly supports the creation of projects that establish, expand or advance both school curriculum and educational arts programming. Projects that support and encourage the community’s lifelong learning, appreciation and enjoyment of the arts are also funded.

The Montana Arts Council awards grants to Montana organizations that are nonprofit and exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(a), which include the 501(c)(3) designation of the Internal Revenue Code, or are units of government, educational institutions or local chapters of tax-exempt national organizations.

Deadlines are ongoing. To apply, visit MAC’s website at <http://art.mt.gov> or call the MAC Arts Education Hotline at 800-282-3092.

Arts Education Artist Registry

The Arts Education program supports a wide range of residencies by professional working artists and local or regional arts organizations (touring or locally based). Activities are hands-on and process-oriented. The artist must be able to clearly communicate the concepts and skills of the chosen art form and relate well to people in a variety of educational settings.

Deadlines are ongoing. To apply visit MAC’s website at <http://art.mt.gov> or call the MAC Arts Education Hotline at 800-282-3092.

Cultural and Aesthetic Project Grants

In 1975, the Montana Legislature set aside a percentage of the Coal Tax to restore murals in the Capitol and support other cultural and aesthetic projects. Grant funds are derived from the interest earned on this Cultural Trust.

Any person, association, group or governmental agency may apply. All applications must, however, be officially sponsored by a governmental entity. Requirements include a 1:1 match in cash or in-kind goods and services for Special Projects Under \$4,500, Special Projects and Operational Support. Capital expenditures require a 3:1 match of cash or in-kind goods and services. This application can only be completed online – go to MAC’s website at <http://art.mt.gov>. The application deadline is August 1, 2014 for FY 2016-2017.

Montana’s Circle of American Masters

Montana’s Circle of American Masters in Visual Folk and Traditional Arts celebrates the contributions of Montana’s master artists. A member of Montana’s Circle of American Masters is a person, who throughout their lifetime of work in the traditional arts, has created a notable body of work. Of significant cultural and artistic stature, their work is representative of the historic, traditional and innovative arts and handcrafts distinctive to the state and is worthy of note on both a state and national level. Deadlines for this program are ongoing. For nomination materials, visit the MAC website at http://art.mt.gov/artists/artists_masters.asp or contact Cindy Kittredge at elkittredge@dishmail.net or phone her at 406-468-4078.

Public Value Partnerships

The Montana Arts Council is pleased to continue operating support grants for Montana non-profit arts organizations under a program titled Public Value Partnerships. Public value partners are defined as organizations making a positive difference in the individual and collective lives of the citizens of the state through the arts, and worthy of state investment. These grants fund Montana non-profit arts

organizations who have had their 501(c)(3) status for a minimum of five years and at least a half-time paid staff member. Current guidelines are available on the MAC website. The current grant period runs from July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2014. The next round of grant applications will be due in Spring 2014. Visit <http://art.mt.gov> for more information.

Strategic Investment Grants for the Arts

Strategic Investment Grants for the Arts are given throughout the year to provide funds for:

- Training and Network Development opportunities that help build art skills, healthy arts careers and businesses.
- Market Expansion to help increase exposure and improve marketing or promotion, opportunities for exhibition or performance and sales.

- Public Outreach Arts Activities for ongoing and one-time arts activities by arts organizations and artists that help firmly anchor the arts in the greater community.
- Challenges and Emergencies to provide assistance for artists or arts organizations experiencing catastrophic-level emergencies that threaten their ability to continue their work, and demand prompt and immediate attention.

Artists, 501(c)(3) arts organizations and Pre K-12 teachers are eligible to apply. 1:1 matching grants are available up to \$1,000 and decisions will be dictated by the availability of funds and the nature of the requests. Awards are made directly by the council and applications are reviewed monthly.

This application can only be completed online – go to MAC’s website at <http://art.mt.gov>. The application deadline is the 15th of the month (or first business day after the 15th if that falls on a weekend).

T.E.A., Teacher Exploration of the Arts

This grant program is for elementary classroom teachers who wish to work one-on-one with a professional working artist in order to develop the teacher’s skill in a particular artistic discipline. Deadlines are ongoing. You must apply at least six weeks in advance of the start date of your project. A cash match is not required. All grants are for \$500. Apply at <https://www.grantinterface.com/montanaarts/Common/LogOn.aspx>

Grant guidelines and applications can be downloaded at <http://art.mt.gov>



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Help us find technical assistance articles for State of the Arts

The Montana Arts Council is requesting submissions from artists and organizations on practical professional development tips for artists for upcoming issues of *State of the Arts*.

Topics might include:

- “How to” articles (i.e. marketing tips for the beginning visual artist, how to find a publisher for your first book, doing your own PR, writing an effective artist statement or how to make a CD).
- Innovative arts education projects or statistics.

Upcoming deadlines are: May 25 for the July/Aug. issue; and July 25 for the Sept./Oct. issue.

Please limit submissions to 500 words. Call MAC at 406-444-6510 or email mac@mt.gov before submitting stories.

ARTS & CULTURE: Statewide Service Organizations

Humanities Montana, 311 Brantly Hall, The University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812; 406-243-6022; www.humanitiesmt.org. Presents humanities programs, awards grants, conducts speakers bureau, reading/discussion groups and teacher programs.

MT Art Education Assn., President: Marvin Pauls; mpauls@mcps.k12.mt.us; www.maeamt.org. Provides professional information and development for art teachers in all areas.

MT Art Therapy Assn., President Elect: Steve Thomas; arttherapyinmt@g.com; montanaarttherapyassociation.org. Connects art therapists, educates the public, and conducts art exhibits to emphasize the healing nature of art making.

MT Arts, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551. Provides administrative services for statewide organizations and some local groups and acts as a fiscal agent for emerging arts organizations.

MT Assn. of Symphony Orchestras, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551; www.montanasymphonies.org. Provides resource sharing, imports musicians and conducts seminars and conferences.

MT Center for the Book, c/o Humanities Montana, 311 Brantly Hall, The University of Montana, Missoula, MT 59812; 406-243-6022, ask for Ken Egan. Organizes public forums featuring Montana authors; and promotes reading, book arts and publishing.

MT China Painting Art Assn., 1202 Hauser Blvd., Helena, MT 59601; 406-442-9504. Promotes the art of china painting, porcelain and glass; sponsors a yearly public show featuring nationally known teachers.

MT Community Foundation, 1 N. Last Chance Gulch, Suite 1, Helena, MT 59601; 406-443-8313; email: mtcf@mt.net; www.mtcf.org. Maintains endowments for nonprofit organizations and awards grants.

MT Cultural Advocacy, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551. Coalition of arts and cultural agencies that lobbies the state legislature to maintain

funding of cultural agencies and oversees legislation affecting Montana’s cultural sector.

MT Dance Arts Assn., PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551. Sponsors a fall and spring workshop for young Montana dancers, administers a summer scholarship program and presents a summer teachers’ workshop.

MT Arts Association, Inc., c/o Ron Paulick, 708 56th St. So., Great Falls, MT; 406-453-4076. Assists artists in all disciplines through educational projects, information, and workshops.

MT Music Educators Assn., President John Combs, 1500 Clarkia Lane, Missoula, MT 59802; jcombs@mcps.k12.mt.us; www.mtmsucied.org. Provides professional information and development for music teachers in all areas.

MT Painters Alliance, Janet Sullivan, 4839 Scott Allen Dr., Missoula, MT; www.mtpaintersalliance.com. A statewide organization comprised of professional outdoor painters who seek to showcase the vast variety and spectacular beauty of Montana.

MT Performing Arts Consortium, PO Box 1872, Bozeman, MT 59771; 406-585-9551; www.mtperformingarts.org. Supports performing arts presenting in large and small communities; sponsors an annual conference showcasing performing arts; facilitates block-booking; and provides quick-grants to rural presenters.

MT Preservation Alliance, 516 N. Park, Suite A, Helena, MT 59601; 406-457-2822; www.preservemontana.org. Provides technical assistance and information on historic preservation issues through a circuit rider program. Publishes Preservation Montana.

MT Public Television Assn., PO Box 503, White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645; 406-547-3803. Supports efforts of Montana’s rural low-power public television stations; provides technical assistance in video production and station application procedures and sponsors an annual conference.

MT Theatre Education Assn. (MTEA), President Mike Hesford, Jefferson HS, Boulder, MT; school 406-225-

3317; cell 406-224-1598; mike.hesford@jhs.k12.mt.us. A K-12 education resource for Montana theatre educators; presents yearly at MEA-MFT and is affiliated with EDTA.

MT Thespians, Chapter Director, Sarah DeGrandpre, 2120 S. Reserve St., PMB 136, Missoula, MT 59801-6451; 406-728-2400 ext. 8052; SarahDeGrandpre@montanastatethespians.org; www.montanastatethespians.org. Recognizing and rewarding excellence in high school theatre.

MT Watercolor Society, PO Box 3002, Missoula, MT 59807; Sally Angove, membership chair, 406-442-4657; email: sangove@bresnan.net; www.montanawatercolor.society.org. Sponsors two annual workshops, a yearly Open Members show, a national Juried Watermedia Exhibition, and a quarterly newsletter.

Museum and Art Gallery Directors Assn., 2112 First Avenue North, Great Falls, MT 59401; 406-761-1797; email: montanaart@bresnan.net; www.mt-magda.org. Supports visual art centers and galleries through traveling exhibitions, technical assistance and an annual conference.

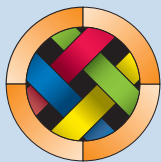
Museums Assn. of Montana, MT Historical Society, 225 N. Roberts, Helena, MT 59620; 406-444-4710; www.montanamuseums.org. Supports museums of all disciplines through annual conferences, quarterly newsletters and technical assistance with museum issues.

Rocky Mountain Photo Club, 1518 Howell St., Missoula, MT 59802; 406-728-5374. Provides photography education, professional information, workshops and opportunities for members to show work in galleries.

VSA Montana, PO Box 7225, Missoula, MT 59807; 406-549-2984; www.vsamontana.org. Provides information, technical assistance and workshops on working with differently-abled constituencies.

Writer’s Voice of the Billings Family YMCA, 402 N. 32nd St., Billings, MT 59101; 406-248-1685. Assists emerging writers in artistic and professional development; supports accomplished writers; provides public programs that challenge the traditional definition of literary arts.

1	Art of Leadership Webinars; Legislative Budget; Jack Gladstone; Joanna Klink
2	Arni's Addendum; Montana Main Street; Jack Gladstone (cont.)
3-5	Congrats; Condolences; Transitions; Alpine Theatre Project's ATP 2.0
6	Poetry Out Loud; Student Scholarship
7	Visual Thinking Strategies; Express to Speak
8	The State of Out-of-State Arts; Organization Aids Writers; Sheryl Noethe Poem
9	About Music
10-11	About Books
12	Auction Action; Percent-for-Art Call for Artists
13	Miss Linda's School of Dance; Stumptown Players
14-16	Arts Calendar
16-17	Art Exhibits; Arts Calendar (cont.)
18	About Visual Artists
19	The Three Rs at Work in Montana
20	<i>The Whole Country was ...</i> ; Exhibit of Ledger Art; Amendment to Indian Arts and Crafts Act
21	Native News; Productive Board Meetings
22	Boards Make an Impact; What Inspires People to Give; Two Sides of Charitable Giving Debate
23	Law and the Art World; Tech Talk
24-27	Opportunities



STATE OF THE

Arts



The LINC videographer team visited Montana recently (and was clearly inspired by Lewis and Clark) to film the Montana Artrepreneur Program in action in the Flathead and Bitterroot Valleys. Pictured here, left to right, are Bethany Dettmore, Cassim Shepard and Andreas Burgess.

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THE ART OF LEADERSHIP OFFERS TWO WEBINARS

Page 1

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State of Montana programs are available to all Montanans. Upon request, an alternative accessible format will be provided. Call 406-444-6449

May/June 2013



MONTANA ARTS COUNCIL

AN AGENCY OF STATE GOVERNMENT

Strengthening the Creative Economy of Montana

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Fax 406-444-6548
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<http://art.mt.gov>
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Jackie Parsons, Chairman, PO Box 589, Browning, MT 59417
Cynthia Andrus, Vice Chairman,
3247 Garden Brook Ln., Bozeman, MT 59715
Corky Clairmont, 33608 Emory Rd., Ronan, MT 59864
JP Gabriel, 6655 Falcon Lane #6, Bozeman, MT 59718
Mark Kuipers, 4770 Duncan Dr., Missoula, MT 59802
Tracy Linder, 13311 Ballard Ivie Rd., Molt, MT 59057
Arlene Parisot, 748 So. California, Helena, MT 59601
Rob Quist, PO Box 1711, Kalispell, MT 59901
Kathleen Schlepp, 914 S. Custer, Miles City, MT 59301
Allen Secher, 955 Northwoods, Whitefish, MT 59937
Jean Steele, 435 Jorgy Way, Hamilton, MT 59840
Youpa Stein, 73250 Lemlama Ln., Arlee, MT 59821
Judy Ulrich, 4 Elm Dr., Dillon, MT 59725
Jane Waggoner Deschner, 635 N. 26th St., Billings, MT 59101
Wilbur Wood, PO Box 12, Roundup, MT 59072

MAC Staff

Arlynn Fishbaugh, Executive Director
afishbaugh@mt.gov • 406-444-6430
Carleen Layne, Accountant
clayne@mt.gov • 406-444-6489
Cinda Holt, Business Development Specialist
cholt@montana.com • 406-777-0090
Cindy Kittredge, Folk Arts & Market Development Specialist
mtcreativearts@gmail.com • 406-468-4078
Kim Baraby Hurtle, Percent-For-Art Director
khurtle@mt.gov • 406-444-6430
Kristin Han Burgoyne, Database & Grants Director, Accessibility Coordinator
kburgoyne@mt.gov • 406-444-6449
Beck McLaughlin, Education & Web Services Director
bemclaughlin@mt.gov • 406-444-6522
KarenDe Herman, Administrative Specialist
kherman2@mt.gov • 406-444-4700